



Daily Report

East Asia

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Japan

Attempt To Break U.S. Trade Talks Stalemate
OW2705053088 Tokyo KYODO in English 0314 GMT
27 May 88

[Text] Tokyo, May 27 KYODO—Japan will send an emissary to the United States on Monday to break a stalemate in the long-standing trade dispute over Japanese import curbs on U.S. beef and oranges, Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries Minister Takashi Sato said Friday.

Sato made the remarks at a press conference held after a cabinet meeting.

Hidero Maki, vice agriculture minister for international affairs, will meet with Michael Smith, deputy U.S. trade representative, starting on Tuesday, to resume working-level talks on the matter, Sato said. Maki will return to Tokyo on June 5.

After examining the outcome of the working-level talks, Sato will meet with U.S. Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter to iron out the remaining differences, he said.

In an upcoming meeting with Smith, Maki will propose that Japan increase its 25-percent tariffs on beef to 70 to 80 percent instead of levying import surcharges—as previously proposed—after scrapping the present import quotas, Japanese officials said.

Washington has said it would accept a tariff of up to 50 percent for the time being, if Japan made concessions on other measures such as permitting U.S. beef exporters to sell in Japan without going through the Livestock Industry Promotion Corp., a semigovernmental body that controls all beef imports.

The U.S. proposal calls for Japan to lower the provisional 50-percent tariff after a certain period to the current 25 percent, ministry sources said.

Tough bargaining over the acceptable tariff rate will be a focus of the upcoming Washington talks, the sources said.

Should the U.S. make concessions on the Japanese tariff rate it would accept, the beef trade row might be settled, they said.

In such an eventuality, Sato and Yeutter would be able to confirm the agreement in a meeting that might be held before the June 19-21 summit in Toronto, Canada, of seven major industrialized nations, they said.

Japan wants to reach a compromise agreement before mid-June because it wants to prevent the beef row from putting Japan under pressure at the summit, which is

expected to put emphasis on discussions of farm subsidies and other farm trade policy issues, according to Japanese diplomats in Washington.

New Round of Talks Opens
OW0106032788 Tokyo KYODO in English 0303 GMT
1 Jun 88

[Text] Washington, May 31 KYODO—Japanese and American officials opened the latest round of talks on liberalizing Japan's beef and orange imports Tuesday amid dim prospects for a major breakthrough in the farm dispute.

U.S. Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter said the issue of tariffs is not the sole stumbling block to solving the farm trade rift with Japan.

Hidero Maki, vice agriculture, forestry and fisheries minister, and other Japanese officials declined comment after the opening day of a three-day session.

The two countries started the farm talks after Japanese officials in Tokyo hinted at imposing a fixed tariff of as much as 70 percent on beef in lieu of quotas.

Yeutter and other U.S. Government officials said the tariff level was not the only hurdle in the marathon talks with Japan on beef and orange exports to Japan.

The U.S. is also calling on Japan to lift its curbs on beef and orange imports within a few years.

A series of both high-level and working-level negotiations on the farm dispute have ended in failure, resulting in the creation of a panel within the Geneva-based General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Sources close to the ongoing talks said Japan hopes to make headway in the trade row in time for Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita's meeting with President Ronald Reagan in London on Friday.

If the two sides fail to reach agreement by then, the sources said, the two leaders will discuss the issue in Toronto, Canada, where they will attend an annual economic summit of the world's seven major industrial democracies.

Diplomatic sources here also said that the Japanese Government wants to resolve the farm dispute with the U.S. before the newly-established GATT panel begins deliberations on June 15.

Accord on U.S. Base Workers Put Into Effect
*OW0106045988 Tokyo KYODO in English 0336 GMT
1 Jun 88*

[Text] Tokyo, June 1 KYODO—A Japan-U.S. agreement requiring Japan to pay all allowances for Japanese workers at U.S. bases in Japan was put into effect Wednesday, Japanese officials said.

The agreement revision, a five-year special accord which went into effect last June, is intended to help the United States meet the cost of stationing military forces in Japan.

Under the revised pact, Japan is to pay all eight allowances, including transportation, housing and retirement by fiscal 1990, to some 21,000 Japanese workers at U.S. bases.

The old agreement called for Japan to shoulder up to half the cost of the eight allowances.

The revised accord was signed in Tokyo in March and the Japanese Government approved its implementation May 27.

Further Defense Studies With U.S. Urged
*OW3005025688 Tokyo KYODO in English 0113 GMT
30 May 88*

[Text] Tokyo, May 30 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita on Monday called on senior self-defense forces officers to exert further efforts to study defense cooperation with the United States.

In a meeting with senior uniformed officers at the Defense Agency, Takeshita said studies on U.S. aid at a time of emergency for Japan and other matters should be promoted to strengthen the Japan-U.S. security setup.

He welcomed a U.S.-Soviet summit meeting which started in Moscow Sunday, saying it will contribute to stabilized relations between East and West.

Takeshita said, however, that world peace and security are supported by a balance of power through deterrent, including nuclear arms, and called for a further Western defense buildup.

He said his government is determined to secure peace and security for Japan through various means such as proper crisis management, diplomatic efforts and continuous procurement of necessary resources.

Takeshita Leaves for U.S., Europe Tour
*OW3005094788 Tokyo KYODO in English 0915 GMT
30 May 88*

[Text] Tokyo, May 30 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita embarked on an 11-day tour to the United States and Europe Monday.

Hours before leaving Tokyo's Haneda airport for New York, Takeshita said he will deliver a speech to the United Nations session Wednesday and will clarify Japan's position concerning disarmament.

The prime minister said though his itinerary is tight, he hopes to meet leaders of the world separately while attending the U.N. special session on disarmament.

Takeshita, in the meeting at his official residence with his entourage and reporters accompanying him, said he wants a frank exchange of views with the leaders of France, Belgium and the Netherlands in order to help prepare for the Toronto summit.

After a brief stopover in Anchorage, Takeshita will arrive in New York Monday evening. On Tuesday, he will meet Argentine President Raul Alfonsin, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

The prime minister will also meet U.S. President Ronald Reagan in London on Friday to be directly briefed about the outcome of the U.S.-Soviet summit in Moscow.

He will then return to Tokyo June 9 after meeting with Dutch Prime Minister Rudolphus Lubbers in the Hague on June 4, French President Francois Mitterrand in Paris on June 6, and European Community Commission President Jacques Delors and Belgian Prime Minister Wilfried Martens both in Brussels June 7.

Addresses UN Disarmament Session
*OW3105091388 Tokyo KYODO in English 0841 GMT
31 May 88*

[Text] New York, May 31 KYODO—The following are excerpts from Japanese Prime Minister Takeshita's speech at the United Nations' special session on disarmament:

The President of the United States and the general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party are meeting in Moscow at this very moment. ... I welcome wholeheartedly their earnest efforts to stabilize East-West relations.

In various parts of the world, however, wars continue to rage, although in Afghanistan progress is being made toward a comprehensive settlement.

(Arms Control and Disarmament) [subhead]

Japan experienced unspeakable horrors as a result of the atomic bombs that were dropped on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Japanese people solemnly pray that nuclear weapons will ultimately be eliminated so that a nuclear holocaust can never be repeated.

The fact that nuclear weapons are stockpiled in such enormous quantities as to be capable of annihilating the human race many times over is a source of profound concern, not only to the people of Japan but to peoples the world over.

... Japan firmly appeals to the nuclear-weapon states to strive for the realization of nuclear disarmament.

The United States and the Soviet Union have concluded a treaty on the global elimination of intermediate- and shorter-range nuclear missiles, launching for the first time the process of an actual negotiated reduction of existing nuclear weapons. I value this highly as a significant first step toward nuclear disarmament.

In addition to achieving nuclear disarmament, it is vitally important to prevent an increase in the number of nuclear-weapon states. I welcome warmly the recent accession of Spain to the Non-Proliferation Treaty and Saudi Arabia's recent decision to do so as well.

... I would like to urge those states which have not yet done so to accede to it at the earliest possible date.

(Nuclear Test Ban) [subhead]

I was very encouraged to learn of the recent signing by the United States and the Soviet Union of the protocol to the peaceful nuclear explosions treaty of 1976, which is a result of intensive negotiations between the two countries.

Japan strongly hopes that the United States and the Soviet Union will ratify that treaty as well as the threshold test ban treaty of 1974 at the earliest practicable date, so that they can proceed to the next phase of limiting nuclear tests.

Possessing advanced techniques in seismology, Japan has been contributing to the development of measures to verify nuclear testing through seismological means. We devised a project to exchange seismological wave-form data, and have been conducting experiments with a number of countries concerned since 1986.

I am happy to announce on this occasion that we plan to convene in Japan, jointly with the United Nations, an international conference to share the fruits of these experiments with interested countries, and to invite further participation in the project.

I hope that this will serve as a useful step toward the establishment of a global system for the verification of nuclear testing.

(Disarmament in Non-Nuclear Weapons) [subhead]

Chemical weapons, in particular, are weapons of mass destruction which kill and injure people with their potent toxicity. They are also extremely dangerous because they are easy to produce and use.

It is profoundly regrettable that these heinous weapons have been actually used, for example, in the conflict between Iran and Iraq, despite the prohibition of their use in war under an international convention.

In order to prevent totally the use of these weapons, it is essential that their stockpiling and production be prohibited and, indeed, that they be eliminated globally.

I therefore believe that every effort should continue to be made at the conference on disarmament in Geneva to conclude the convention on a global ban of chemical weapons at the earliest possible date.

Japan, for its part, is determined to continue its utmost efforts for the early conclusion of the convention and the establishment of an international organization to implement the elimination of these weapons.

(Four Points in the Process of Arms Control and Disarmament) [subhead]

(1) First, deterrence and balance.

Arms control and disarmament should contribute to the enhancement of the security of the parties concerned and thus to the peace and stability of the world. This should be done by lowering the level of armament in a balanced manner, while maintaining deterrence and taking into account the overall balance among all weapon systems.

(2) Second, regional characteristics.

In proceeding with arms control and disarmament measures in a specific region, the geopolitical conditions prevailing in the region, as well as the impact of such measures on other regions, should be fully taken into account.

(3) Third, transparency of military information.

For the promotion of arms control and disarmament, it is important to increase the transparency of basic military data, such as those relating to military budgets. As information concerning the armaments possessed by adversaries becomes more transparent, there can be greater mutual confidence in promoting arms control and disarmament negotiations, which in turn will make possible more objective and appropriate responses.

(4) Fourth, effective verification.

Effective verification systems must be agreed upon to ensure that arms control and disarmament agreements are strictly observed. Of course, the methods and arrangements for verification will vary, according to the

particular arms control and disarmament agreements. The most appropriate verification system for each agreement should be sought in the light of the specific objective that it is intended to serve.

(Basic Ideas About Peace) [subhead]

Peace, together with freedom and prosperity, is the supreme aspiration of mankind. The United Nations was founded 43 years ago to respond to this ardent desire of peoples throughout the world.

In Asia, where Japan is located, it is important to solve the northern territories issue between Japan and the Soviet Union. Continuous efforts are also called for on the part of the parties concerned toward the easing of tensions in the Korean peninsula and the settlement of the Kampuchean problem.

Furthermore, Japan strongly hopes that this summer the Olympic games in Seoul will be carried out peacefully and successfully, so that they may truly be a festival of peace. We shall spare no effort to this end.

I believe that, together with the promotion of arms control and disarmament, these efforts to ease political tensions among states and to foster mutual trust are indispensable for the peace and stability of the world.

After the Second World War, Japan adopted a Constitution which enshrines the lofty ideals of peace and freedom, and firmly committed itself to the cause of peace, resolving not to become a military power again.

Charting this course while ensuring the economic well-being of its people is a new but worthy experiment in the history of mankind, and Japan is steadfastly committed to it.

We continue to maintain, as a matter of national policy declared at home and abroad, the three non-nuclear principles of not possessing nuclear weapons, not producing them and not permitting their introduction into Japan.

As The Japanese people struggled to recover from the war and reconstruct their nation, they resolved to make positive contributions toward the peace and prosperity of the world.

As part of this resolve, Japan is extending economic assistance to developing countries. I believe that our efforts in this regard have contributed not only to the economic and social development of these countries but also to the stability of the regions concerned.

(Japan Contributing to the World) [subhead]

I am fully aware that the increase in Japan's national strength in recent years has brought with it ever-increasing responsibilities in the promotion of world peace and prosperity and the enrichment of culture for people everywhere.

Based on this perception, since assuming the office of prime minister I have upheld the building of a "Japan contributing to the world" as a primary goal of my cabinet, and am endeavouring to ensure that our international responsibilities are fulfilled more effectively than ever before.

In the last seven months I have visited a number of countries and have exchanged views with their leaders. On those occasions I enunciated the basic thrust of our foreign policy which is dedicated to the building of a "Japan contributing to the world."

During my recent visit to Britain, I announced the new idea of an "international cooperation initiative," which reflects my thoughts on how to implement this basic policy.

The initiative comprises three pillars, namely, the strengthening of cooperation to achieve peace, the promotion of international cultural exchange and the expansion of Japan's official development assistance (ODA).

(International Cooperation Initiative) [subhead]

... Japan should make every possible effort to contribute to the realization of a peaceful world, which is the ardent desire of all mankind. Indeed, I am convinced that this is the mission Japan is entrusted with today.

I intend to promote actively "cooperation to achieve peace" in the following five areas.

(1) The first is diplomatic efforts to establish a firm foundation for peace.

In order to maintain international peace and stability, it is essential to establish international relations in which confrontations or conflicts of interest between states can be resolved in a just and lasting manner without undermining the peace of the region or of the world.

Japan will actively pursue its diplomatic efforts, such as those aimed at strengthening political dialogue and cooperation through international conferences, so as to foster the basic conditions for the restoration of mutual trust and harmony among states.

With regard to the conflict between Iran and Iraq, Japan has on its own made continuous efforts over the past five years to foster an environment conducive to peace by engaging in political dialogue with the two sides.

Moreover, Japan continues to give its full support to the mediation efforts of Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar for the early implementation of Security Council Resolution 598.

I strongly hope that the leaders of both sides will respond positively to the secretary general's mediation efforts at the earliest date.

As for the situation in the Middle East, my minister for foreign affairs, Mr. Sousuke Uno, is preparing to visit the region in order to explore, through a frank exchange of views with the leaders of the states concerned, how Japan can best contribute to the promotion of the peace process.

On Kampuchea, I intend to support, to the best of my ability, the peace efforts for national reconciliation of Prince Norodom Sihanouk. I should like on this occasion to appeal to other countries to likewise support those efforts in order to ensure that they are fruitful.

(2) The second dimension of "cooperation to achieve peace" comprises international efforts to prevent conflicts.

It is the task of the international community as a whole to prevent threats to world peace and stability, including conflicts among states. Japan, for its part, will cooperate even more actively with international efforts to address this problem.

The United Nations has a particularly significant role to play in preventing conflicts, as is reflected in the Declaration on the Prevention of Conflicts which will be adopted by the General Assembly next autumn. Japan will step up its assistance to the activities of the United Nations in this field.

(3) The third dimension is participation in international efforts for the peaceful settlement of disputes.

When peace is shattered and an armed conflict occurs, Japan will take an active part in United Nations and other international efforts toward achieving an early cease-fire and a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

Indeed, once a cease-fire has been achieved through such international efforts, and peace-keeping activities under United Nations and other auspices are under way, it has been Japan's practice to actively extend financial cooperation to these activities.

Cooperation with these peace-keeping activities is also envisaged in Japan's recent special contribution of 20 million dollars to the United Nations, of which a sum of 5 million dollars is specifically allotted to United Nations activities on the Afghanistan issue.

With a view to furthering "cooperation to achieve peace," I intend also to consider dispatching personnel in fields which are appropriate to Japan, such as the supervision of elections, transportation, communication and medical services.

Moreover, I believe that, for the purpose of preventing conflicts or achieving their peaceful settlement, it is essential to establish a communications network so that information can be transmitted between the secretary general and the countries concerned without delay.

(4) The strengthening of assistance to refugees is the fourth area of cooperation for peace.

Resulting directly or indirectly from conflicts in various parts of the world, the problem of refugees continues to be a source of concern. Assistance to refugees is necessary not only for humanitarian reasons but also for the purpose of bringing about the genuine settlement of the conflicts.

Japan will further increase its assistance bilaterally as well as multilaterally through international organizations such as the United Nations. I would like to add that Japan is ready to contribute, for example, through substantial financial assistance, to international efforts toward the voluntary repatriation of Afghan refugees.

(5) Positive contributions for reconstruction represent the fifth area of cooperation.

Japan is ready to contribute vigorously to international cooperation efforts toward reconstruction once a conflict is peacefully resolved. For this purpose, Japan intends to make available the experience and enthusiasm of its people in terms of personnel as well as financial resources.

(Conclusion) [subhead]

As science and technology have progressed, mankind has extended his activities from land to sea, to air, and recently to outer space. Viewing the earth from outer space, it becomes dramatically clear that the earth is the common and irreplaceable home of all mankind.

We owe it to posterity to preserve this planet earth as a truly safe and comfortable homeland for all peoples. We must save the earth from annihilation by weapons of mass destruction and free it from incessant armed conflict and political confrontation.

No progress can be made through discord and confrontation; rather, it is only through trust and cooperation that the future of mankind can be ensured.

Now, it is more necessary than ever before that we reaffirm peace as the common aspiration of mankind. Upholding our lofty ideals, we must continue to work toward the elimination of nuclear weapons and general and complete disarmament, which are mankind's ultimate objectives.

I believe we should rededicate ourselves to the realization of these ideals by striving to settle conflicts peacefully, by avoiding confrontation and by steadily implementing arms control and disarmament measures.

It is the duty of our generation to do our utmost to foster progress and the well-being of all mankind.

Let us strive to surmount every obstacle so that we may cooperate with one another to build a truly prosperous, peaceful, and harmonious world, free from conflict, starvation and disease.

Thank you.

Civilians To Aid in UN Peacekeeping
OW'0106020888 Tokyo KYODO in English 0134 GMT
1 Jun 88

[Text] New York, May 31 KYODO—Japan's Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, in what Japanese officials call "an entirely new step," will announce a decision here Wednesday to contribute civilian personnel to United Nations peacekeeping activities.

"This is an entirely new step 40 years after the war... Before we were rather timid, rather cowardly about sending our people out but the time has come for us to stand up and send our people to this sort of activity," a Japanese spokesman said after a briefing on Takeshita's visit to the U.N.

Takeshita, in a speech to the U.N. special session on disarmament, will pledge to make greater financial contributions to U.N. peacekeeping activities and to dispatch personnel to the U.N. in such fields as transportation, communications, and medical services.

The Japanese official said that until recently public support was not strong enough to warrant committing personnel, rather than just more money, to peacekeeping forces.

"But now we are mature enough, so to speak, in our political cooperation with the world. So although this is a rather small step from outside, for the Japanese it is a very new and important development."

Japan is already scheduled to send a civilian diplomat to join the U.N. observer group overseeing the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Japanese officials also said they plan to convene an international conference on seismological technology to share recent Japanese advances and coordinate efforts to improve means of verifying nuclear tests.

Japan has consistently shied away from contributing any personnel to peacekeeping forces and if carried out, this new level of involvement would signal an important psychological breakthrough for Japan in its international role, Japanese officials said.

The number of Japanese personnel to be contributed and their functions still have to be worked out with U.N. officials, but they are expected to be dispatched in nonmilitary fields.

Because of the intense sensitivity of the issue for the Japanese, U.N. officials have not pressed Japan to join the multinational peacekeeping efforts even though they consider it important for a country of Japan's stature to assist in one of the primary functions of the world body, a U.N. Secretariat official said.

Meets With PRC's Qian Qichen
OW3105234888 Tokyo KYODO in English 2334 GMT
31 May 88

[Text] New York, May 31 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen met here Tuesday and agreed to promote bilateral relations, Japanese officials said.

Qian did not mention remarks by former Japanese State Minister Seisuke Okuno, who resigned from the cabinet on May 13 after defending Japan's wartime conduct in China.

Takeshita and Qian, both here to attend the United Nations special session on disarmament, met for 20 minutes in the lounge at the United Nations headquarters.

Qian, who was promoted to the post of foreign minister in April, told Takeshita China is looking forward to the prime minister's visit planned for late August.

Foreign Minister Uno Welcomes INF Treaty
OW0106112288 Tokyo KYODO in English 1026 GMT
1 Jun 88

[Text] Tokyo, June 1 KYODO—Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno on Wednesday welcomed U.S.-Soviet exchanges of instruments of ratification of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty in Moscow.

In a statement Uno said, "We sincerely welcome the fact that the total elimination of INF on a global basis which was proposed by the U.S. Government and strongly supported by the Japanese Government has been realized..."

Uno said he hopes the INF treaty, which he said has been brought about as a "result of the unity of Western countries," will be smoothly implemented.

"Japan is resolved to contribute to the stable development of overall U.S.-Soviet relations as well as East-West relations, while supporting U.S. efforts directed to that end," he said.

Uno Sees No Prospect for End to Iran-Iraq War
OW2705052888 Tokyo KYODO in English 0407 GMT
 27 May 88

[Text] Tokyo, May 27 KYODO—Japan will continue to press both Iran and Iraq to seek a peaceful settlement of the Gulf war and to show restraint, Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno said Friday.

Japan has been consulting with the two countries about an early peaceful settlement of the eight-year war since last year as a nonpermanent member of the United Nations Security Council, Uno said.

The foreign minister vowed that Japan will continue to positively support mediation by U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to bring about a ceasefire between Iran and Iraq, officials said.

Uno submitted a Foreign Ministry report on the Gulf war to a meeting on comprehensive national security chaired by Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita held at the prime minister's official residence, they said.

Nine cabinet ministers and four leaders of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party were among the 17 people attending the meeting, they said.

Uno said freedom of navigation in the key Gulf oil route will remain under threat because of continued attacks on ships by Iran and Iraq.

A total of 148 ships were attacked in the Gulf in 1987 and 59 ships have been attacked this year, as of May 20, he said.

Japan relied for 67.4 percent of its imported oil on the Middle East in 1987, of which 57.4 percent came via the Strait of Hormuz, he said.

Uno said the international oil supply situation is unlikely to be upset by continued attacks on shipping in the Persian Gulf because demand for and supply of oil has been comparatively stable, and advanced countries, including Japan, have built up stockpiles of oil for possible emergencies.

Uno said there seems to be no immediate prospect of an end to the Iran-Iraq war, noting that both sides have intensified attacks on cities and that Iran is in a severe

situation politically and militarily following its loss of superiority in the war on the ground and Saudi Arabia's breaking of diplomatic ties with Iran.

The Foreign Ministry also held out little prospect of success for the peace mediation efforts by the United Nations because the two belligerent nations still differ widely on conditions for a ceasefire, Uno said.

Uno said the Japanese Government is making earnest efforts to set up a navigational aid system in the Persian Gulf to ensure safety of shipping in the area.

The government decided to install the system in October last year as part of Japan's contribution in nonmilitary terms to promoting safety of navigation in the Persian Gulf.

JSP's Doi Reaffirms Ties With DPRK
OW2805124988 Tokyo KYODO in English 1158 GMT
 28 May 88

[Text] Sapporo, May 28 KYODO—Opposition leader Takako Doi said Saturday the Japan Socialist Party has no intention to improve ties with South Korea at the price of the north.

Doi, chairwoman of the party, stressed that not one member of the party wants to maintain relations only with South Korea.

She also told a news conference that chances of North Korea participating in the Seoul Olympic games are slim under the current circumstances. She added, however, she would try to persuade the North to participate.

Doi reiterated her basic position opposing the 1965 Japan-South Korea basic relations treaty under which the two countries normalized their diplomatic relations.

She said lack of her leadership was responsible for the recent publication of a false report on the 1987 downing of South Korean airliner in the party newspaper SHAKAI SHIMPO.

The article said the downing of the airliner last November was the joint work of Japan, South Korea, Bahrain and the United States. All 115 people aboard the plane are missing and presumed dead.

The South Korean Government already announced North Korean agents exploded the KAL plane, killing all aboard.

Turning to domestic issues, Doi called on Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita to clearly explain how he will tackle the tax system reform.

Doi also suggested a national referendum on the tax question during a JSP-sponsored forum in Sapporo the same day.

Takeshita told a news conference Saturday he plans to convene a special session of the Diet to debate the issue.

Emperor Hirohito Meets Yugoslavia's Mikulic
*OW2705084188 Tokyo KYODO in English 0702 GMT
27 May 88*

[Text] Tokyo, May 27 KYODO—Emperor Hirohito received Yugoslav Prime Minister Branko Mikulic and his wife Rajka in audience at the Imperial Palace here Friday morning.

It was the fourth time that the emperor had met a foreign leader since he underwent an intestinal bypass operation last September.

The emperor chatted for about 15 minutes with the couple, who arrived in Japan on Wednesday for a four-day visit.

A welcoming luncheon in honor of the couple was given at the palace. Crown Prince Akihito hosted the luncheon on behalf of the emperor, who did not attend.

Mongolia

Czechoslovakia's Jakes Makes 2-Day Visit

Welcomed by Batmonh
*OW3005185488 Ulaanbaatar International Service
in English 0910 GMT 30 May 88*

[Text] General Secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee Milos Jakes arrived in the Mongolian capital on 30 May on an official friendly visit at the invitation of Mongolian party leader and President Batmonh.

Welcoming the Czechoslovak delegation at the Ezyant-Uhaa Airport were Mongolian party and state leaders led by party leader and President Batmonh, as well as heads of diplomatic missions accredited in Ulaanbaatar.

Czechoslovak party leader Milos Jakes with his entourage laid a wreath of flowers at the tomb of Sukhe Bator and Choybalsan, founders of the Mongolian party and state.

Then, in the Government House, Mongolian party leader Batmonh, and the visiting Czechoslovak party leader Milos Jakes, held talks. In the evening, Mongolian leader Batmonh, hosted a reception in honor of the Czechoslovak guest.

Today's edition of the daily [word indistinct] UNEN published a photograph and a brief biography of Milos Jakes. Mr Jakes has seven times visited Mongolia, but this is his first visit to our country as a Czechoslovak

Communist Party leader. The Mongolian paper welcomes the present visit of the Czechoslovak party leader. It hopes that this will further the friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries, said the report.

Talks With Batmonh
*LD3005225088 Prague CTK in English 1544 GMT
30 May 88*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar May 30 (CTK correspondent)—Topical international issues and Czechoslovak-Mongolian relations, particularly cooperation between the Czechoslovak Communist Party and the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, were discussed between the two countries' party leaders here today.

Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes, who arrived here today from Pyongyang, and Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party General Secretary and Chairman of the Presidium of the People's Great Hural Jambyn Batmonh stressed that the Soviet-American INF treaty was important for transition to real disarmament. The two sides regard the conclusion of a Soviet-U.S. treaty on halving strategic offensive weapons as a continuation of the disarmament process and in this context they expressed hope that the current summit in Moscow will be successful in this respect.

While discussing the situation in Europe, Jambyn Batmonh supported the Czechoslovak proposal to establish a zone of confidence and cooperation along the line dividing the Warsaw Treaty and NATO states. Milos Jakes, on the other hand, spoke highly of Mongolia's proposal to set up a system ruling out the use of force in relations between countries of Asia and the Pacific and facilitating a political dialogue and friendly cooperation.

While discussing bilateral economic, scientific and technological cooperation, Milos Jakes and Jambyn Batmonh agreed that leather and shoe-making industries, geology and raw materials production will remain the chief branches of cooperation.

The two officials stressed the need for a consistent implementation of the long-term program of development of economic, scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries till 2000, and for activating direct relations between production enterprises.

Attends Ulaanbaatar Dinner
*LD3005225588 Prague CTK in English 1848 GMT
30 May 88*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar May 30 (CTK correspondents)—Efforts are intensifying in the world to search for new constructive attitudes to the solution of urgent problems of mankind in the spirit of a new political thinking. Jambyn Batmonh, Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party general secretary and chairman of the Presidium of

the People's Great Hural, stressed at a ceremonial dinner given here tonight to honour Milos Jakes, visiting general secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party.

He underlined the Soviet-American treaty on the liquidation of medium- and shorter-range missiles signed last year and ratified these days as the first real step on the road towards nuclear disarmament. Another step is the current meeting of General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan in Moscow, he stressed, adding that the expected results of the Soviet-American discussions on the 50-per cent reduction of the strategic offensive weapons and on other problems would contribute to a revival of the political atmosphere in the world and creation of favourable conditions for a removal of nuclear weapons.

Dealing with the talks with Milos Jakes, he stressed that they confirmed again the unity of opinions on the fundamental questions of accelerating the socio-economic development of the two states, expanding and deepening the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between Mongolia and Czechoslovakia.

The Mongolian representative expressed the conviction that a successful realization of the provisions of the long-term program on economic, scientific and technological cooperation between Mongolia and Czechoslovakia till the year 2000 will advance bilateral relations to a qualitatively higher level.

Mongolia highly appreciates Czechoslovakia's significant proposals for the deepening of the all-European process, removing weapons of mass destruction from the European Continent and the initiative suggested by Milos Jakes for the creation of a zone of confidence, cooperation and good neighbourly relations on the line dividing the Warsaw Treaty and NATO states, Jambyn Batmonh stressed.

The constructive attitudes and the new political thinking are reflected also in Asia's international policy, which is confirmed also by the national reconciliation policy aimed at removing regional conflicts, e.g. by the Geneva agreement on a settlement of the situation around Afghanistan.

Mongolia strives permanently for the strengthening of confidence and cooperation between the states of Asia, striving to contribute to Asia's security. This effort is characteristic of Mongolia's proposal for the creation of a mechanism ruling out the use of force in the relations between Asia and the Pacific, Jambyn Batmonh underlined.

Addresses Dinner

*LD3000225700 Prague CTK in English 1900 GMT
30 May 88*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar May 30 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes welcomed today the constructive atmosphere of the Gorbachev-Reagan talks in Moscow, and

voiced the conviction that with its results the Soviet-American summit meeting will make a dignified entry into the history of important meetings serving peace and disarmament.

Milos Jakes stressed at tonight's dinner that the disarmament process started with the signing of the Soviet-American INF treaty should continue with further steps, especially with a treaty on a 50-per cent cut in strategic offensive weapons.

The Czechoslovak Communist Party general secretary reiterated Czechoslovakia's support for the Soviet proposal of July 1986 for establishing a system of collective security and cooperation in Asia and the Pacific Ocean area. He also supported Mongolia's proposal for signing a convention on renouncing the use of force in relations between Asian and Pacific countries.

Referring to bilateral relations, Milos Jakes said that the identity of views of the two sides at the talks and the assessment of the character of the present stage of building socialism facilitate a more resolute and innovative approach to the application of new forms of economic cooperation. There is still a lot to improve in cooperation in the leather industry and in the effective functioning of the Mongol-Czechoslovak metal joint enterprise. A marked increase in the volume and quality of two-way trade seems realistic, Milos Jakes said.

He said that Czechoslovakia attaches great importance to further development of economic cooperation within the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, and supports also efforts at improving the mechanism of its work and the application of new forms of cooperation.

Visits Footwear Factory

*LD3105151888 Prague CTK in English 1220 GMT
31 May 88*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar May 31 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes went to the Palace of Pioneers and visited the Klement Gottwald footwear factory in the Mongolian capital today.

He was accompanied by Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Politburo member and Secretary Tserendashiyn Namsray.

The footwear plant, which has 2,500 employees, was built with Czechoslovak assistance. It was put into operation in October 1982 and now has the production capacity of three million pairs of shoes annually. Its products are exported to the Soviet Union and Poland and Czechoslovakia receives uppers. Many of the plant's workers have been trained in Czechoslovakia, others have been trained by Czechoslovak experts in the enterprise.

Milos Jakes said that the plan was a real symbol of Czechoslovak-Mongolian friendship because many of its workers had gained qualifications in Czechoslovakia and helped it build its tasks.

Participation in the development of the leather industry is one of the three priorities in Czechoslovak-Mongolian cooperation. The first footwear factory was built in 1959 and other projects—three tanneries, one plant making leather goods and a leather industry research institute—followed. Higher forms of cooperation have been developing for several years. Mongolia's Klement Gottwald works and the Czechoslovak footwear factory at Partizanske signed the first Czechoslovak-Mongolian cooperation agreement last year. The Czechoslovak manufacturers now receive up to 250,000 uppers in exchange for soles.

Speaks at Friendship Rally

*LD3106200688 Prague CTK in English 1330 GMT
31 May 88*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, May 31 (CTK correspondent)—Mongolia strives for cooperation of all states of Asia and the Pacific, People's Revolutionary Party General Secretary and Chairman of the People's Great Hural Jambyn Batmonh told a Czechoslovak-Mongolian friendship meeting here today.

The meeting took place in the Trade Union House at the close of the official friendly visit of Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes.

Mongolia works for all states of the area, regardless of their size and political system, to combine their effort to remove the war danger, boost mutual confidence and understanding as well as the development of equal cooperation.

He said that effort to solve conflicts politically, on the basis of national reconciliation, becomes the decisive tendency in international politics in Asia. Countries of Asia and the Pacific propose constructive initiatives for the consolidation of peace and ensuring of security in the area, he noted.

The Mongolian leader appreciated the active role of Czechoslovakia in the consolidation of world socialism and the development of peaceful cooperation between states. The new important initiatives of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and government are aimed at strengthening European security by creating a zone of confidence, cooperation and good-neighbour relations on the line between the Warsaw Treaty and NATO.

He described cooperation between the two countries in various spheres of production as well as intellectual life as convincing proof of the strength and viability of their friendship. Czechoslovakia helps Mongolia train its personnel and develop production and there are prerequisites to expand this cooperation, Jambyn Batmonh said.

Milos Jakes said in his address that he agreed with Mongolian leaders that an improvement of many-sided cooperation within the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance is a major precondition for the further development of the two countries' economies. He said great expectations were linked to the forthcoming 44th CMEA session in Prague.

The collective concept of international socialist division of labour, which is to be approved by the session, should become an important tool of raising economic cooperation between the member states to a new qualitatively higher level corresponding to the demands of the present stage of the construction of socialism. It should also help speedily bridge the economic gap between Mongolia and other socialist countries. All CMEA states will have to implement it with much greater resolve and responsibility, Milos Jakes said.

He expressed expectation that the Soviet-U.S. summit in Moscow will be an important contribution to mutual understanding between the two states which have the greatest responsibility for peace and that they will contribute to the effort for a nuclear-free world to be ever-lasting and irrevocable.

Czechoslovakia actively participates by its international political activity and concrete initiatives, together with other socialist countries, in the effort to build a peaceful and secure world, Milos Jakes said and expressed satisfaction that the proposal to create a zone of confidence on the borderline between the Warsaw Treaty and NATO received full support also in Mongolia.

He appreciated Mongolia's commitment to the creation of a mechanism which would exclude the use of force in relations between Asian countries and described the Mongolian initiative in this respect as a good basis for the creation of a comprehensive system of security and cooperation in Asia and the Pacific. He also welcomed the proposals made by Mikhail Gorbachev in Vladivostok.

Departs Ulaanbaatar for Prague

*LD3105201088 Prague CTK in English 1338 GMT
31 May 88*

[Text] Ulaanbaatar May 31 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes today ended a two-day visit to Mongolia and left Ulaanbaatar for Prague.

He was seen off at the airport by People's Revolutionary Party General Secretary and Chairman of the People's Great Hural Jambyn Batmonh.

Mongolia was the last leg on his tour during which he also visited the Chinese People's Republic and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

North Korea

More on Czechoslovakia's Jakes Visit

Gives Speech at 27 May Banquet
SK2705164588 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1531 GMT 27 May 88

[Text] Pyongyang May 27 (KCNA)—Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, delivered a speech at the grand banquet arranged by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee on the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

He said:

I would like to express most heartfelt thanks to the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, especially to respected Comrade Kim Il-song for the invitation extended us to pay an official goodwill visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and for the warm hospitality accorded us everywhere we go in your beautiful country.

I am going to take advantage of my present stay in your country for gaining a deep knowledge of the achievements made by the industrious and talented fraternal Korean people. We are to have talks this time following the contacts between our two parties in the last days, notably following the Prague talks held when respected Comrade Kim Il-song was visiting our country four years ago.

Our relations trace their origin to the common goals and contribute to constantly developing extensive joint actions among socialist countries based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, mutual trust and respect.

We shall greet in October this year the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries. On this anniversary, we look back on all the precious traditions which have been created in the course of the development of friendship and fruitful cooperation between us.

We cherish the fact that such relations between us continue developing in depth under the leadership of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and the Workers' Party of Korea.

Our two peoples are linked together by the solidarity between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea which was formed through a long period of their struggle for freedom and social right and during the Korean people's heroic struggle against the imperialist armed intervention.

Still today, we attach great importance to comprehensively developing the relations forged between the fraternal parties and governments and between bodies of states and social organisations and peoples of our two countries.

These relations constitute a reliable foundation which provides a new, wide-range feasibility of expanding and enriching mutual cooperation still further in all political, economic, scientific, technological and cultural fields.

In attaining the above-mentioned objectives we consider, the role of the Czechoslovak-Korean inter-governmental economic and scientific-technological consultative committee is important.

We hope that the consultative committee will more effectively contribute to the work of solving all the important questions arising in the economic relations between the two countries.

We hope that economic cooperation and joint action in scientific educational, public health and other sectors will reach a high level commensurate with the close political friendly relations and solidarity existing between us.

In December last year a road toward removing the heavy burdens of military spendings and the danger of war was opened before whole mankind.

The treaty signed between the Soviet Union and the United States is the beginning of a new stage and the realistic first step toward disarmament.

We are convinced that the course of disarmament will reach a new level at which an agreement on cutting strategic weapons 50 percent is concluded with the treaty on interceptor missiles strictly observed and an agreement on completely banning nuclear tests and an accord on the elimination of chemical weapons are signed after the ratification of the Soviet-U.S. treaty on the elimination of intermediate-and shorter-range nuclear forces.

We consider that the funds spent in armaments should be directed to resolving urgent problems worldwide such as elimination of famine and malignant diseases and environmental protection.

The results of the forthcoming Soviet-U.S. summit meeting will be an important step on this road.

The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic has advanced its own proposals while taking an active part in practising significant peace proposals of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

We fully support the proposal of the Soviet Union to make healthy the international relations in the Asian-Pacific region and the initiatives of the Mongolian People's Republic and other Asian socialist countries conducive to this objective.

We highly appreciate the constructive and peaceful initiatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in conformity with this purpose, to ease the tension on the Korean peninsula, consolidate peace and, especially, turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone.

We also invariably support the efforts of the Korean people to create favourable conditions for a peaceful reunification of the country.

We support particularly the just demand for the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from South Korea. In April, a plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party was held in our country which was of weighty significance for our party and whole society.

The plenary meeting was a continuation of the plenary meeting in December, last year which discussed ways of implementing the strategic line of the 17th Congress of our party for the promotion of economy and social development.

The party Central Committee set forth important tasks concerning its future activities to undertake an overall economic structural reform and deepen socialist democracy.

The plenary meeting indicated a principled line of reorganizing the party work, strengthening the party's unity and working capacity and constantly improving the personnel affairs.

The concrete decisions adopted this time indicate ways of improving the quality of the work of the central organs. Our purpose is to remove factor standing in the way of the development of the country and lift our national economy to a higher stage.

We are going to display the superiority of socialism to capitalism.

If our bold tasks are to be fulfilled, all the working people must be mobilized in this work with creative ingenuity, first of all.

We are well aware of the strong demands which our party's political and ideological work is facing in the work of giving broad scope to the initiative and enthusiasm of the working people, enhancing their sense of responsibility in society and establishing discipline and order.

We are convinced that the difficult tasks cropping up in our way will be fulfilled with credit on the basis of the glorious fighting tradition of our party.

I am glad at our meeting and satisfied over the opportunity arranged for exchanging views on a series of important problems of common concern.

I believe that our current visit to your country will contribute to expanding and developing the friendly relations and fraternal cooperation between Czechoslovakia and Korea in all fields in the interests of both sides and the cause of socialism and world peace and progress.

Holds Talks With Kim Il-song

*SK2905081888 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0759 GMT 29 May 88*

[Text] Pyongyang May 29 (KCNA)—Talks were held again today between Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party.

Attending there on our side were Hong Song-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-premier of the Administration Council; Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Choe Chong-kun, minister of foreign trade; Kim Chae-pong, deputy director of a department of the WPK Central Committee; Yi In-kyu, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs; and Kim Kwang-sop, DPRK ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the CSR [CSSR].

Present on the opposite side were political suite members Ladislav Adamec, member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party [CCP], deputy premier of the government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and premier of the Czech government; Michal Stefanak, member of the Central Committee of the CCP, chief of the Department of International Politics of the Central Committee of the CCP; Jaroslav Molek, chief of the General Affairs Department of the Central Committee of the CCP; Jaromir Johanes, first deputy foreign minister of the Government of the CSR; Jiri Nemec, deputy minister of foreign trade of the Government of the CSR; and Vaclav Herman, CSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the DPRK.

The talks proceeded in a comradely and friendly atmosphere.

Joint Communiqué Issued

SF3005102088 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1002 GMT 30 May 88

["Joint Communiqué on Results of Visit to DPRK by General Secretary of CCP Central Committee Comrade Milos Jakes"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 30 (KCNA)—A joint communiqué on the results of the visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea by Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party (CCP), was made public today.

The joint communiqué says:

Upon the invitation of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, paid an official goodwill visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea over May 27-30, 1988.

Comrade general secretary was accompanied by Comrade Ladislav Adamec, member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, deputy premier of the government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and premier of the government of the Czech Socialist Republic; Comrade Michal Stefanak, member of the Central Committee of the CCP and chief of the department of international politics of the Central Committee of the CCP; Comrade Jaroslav Molek, chief of the General Affairs Department of the Central Committee of the CCP; Comrade Jaromir Johanes, first deputy foreign minister of the Government of the CSSR; and Comrade Jiri Nemec, deputy minister of foreign trade of the Government of the CSSR.

During their stay, the general secretary of the CCP Central Committee and his entourage were accorded a warm welcome by the Korean people. This is a reflection of solid relations of friendship existing between the two parties, two states and two peoples of Korea and Czechoslovakia.

The Czechoslovak guests laid a wreath at the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt. Taesong, went round economic and cultural establishments of the DPRK and appreciated a welcoming performance.

There were talks and conversation between Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, at which the supreme leaders of the two parties informed each other of socialist construction and party activities in the two

countries and discussed the question of further strengthening and developing the traditional Korea-Czechoslovakia friendly relations and a series of important questions of common concern.

The talks which proceeded in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and cordial comradely trust reached a complete consensus of views on all questions discussed.

Comrade Milos Jakes gave information of the activity to carry out the strategy of accelerating socio-economic progress put forward at the 17th Congress of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and of the discussion at the seventh and ninth plenary meetings of the CCP Central Committee on its wider-range undertaking. He stressed that the Czechoslovak Communist Party is directing attention to principled economic reform and the comprehensive restructure of social life and to deepening socialist democracy.

Comrade Kim Il-song gave information of the vigorous endeavours of the Korean people for the fulfilment of the third seven-year plan and the complete victory of socialism. Under the leadership of the party this struggle is being waged under the banner of the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural, on the basis of the line set forth at the Sixth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.

He also gave information of the tense situation prevailing on the Korean peninsula, the struggle of the South Korean people for independence against the United States and for democracy against fascism and the efforts of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to accelerate the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

The supreme leaders of the two parties expressed satisfaction with the fact that the friendly relations between the two parties, two states and two peoples forged and consolidated on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism in the common struggle against imperialism and for the building of socialism have been successfully developing onto a new high stage since the Czechoslovak visit of Comrade Kim Il-song in June 1984.

They satisfactorily estimated the establishment of the solid traditions and firm and reliable foundation enough to constantly develop in depth Korea-Czechoslovakia friendship and expressed the common stand to strive, on this basis, to expand and develop the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two parties, two states and two peoples more allroundly in all political, economic, cultural, scientific and technical, public health and sports fields.

The supreme leaders of the two parties stressed that the development of economic cooperation is a matter of primary importance at present. To this end, attention should be paid to utilizing all the possibilities and

resources of the national economy and further developing the economic and scientific-technological cooperation. It is necessary to enhance the role of the Korean-Czechoslovak economic and scientific-technological consultative committee.

Pointing out that a sign of detente is showing in the international relations thanks to the energetic efforts of the socialist countries and the world peaceloving forces, the supreme leaders of the two parties had identical views that the struggle against imperialist moves of aggression, intervention and war and for world peace and security is still a pressing issue.

Comrade Kim Il-song highly estimated the sincere efforts made by the Czechoslovak Communist Party and Czechoslovak people in every way for security and peace in Europe and expressed full support and firm solidarity for them.

Comrade Kim Il-song noted that the new initiative of Czechoslovakia for establishing a zone of trust, cooperation and good neighbourhood in the area dividing the Warsaw Pact nations and the NATO nations is a constructive and realistic proposal which is substantially conducive to the preservation of security and durable peace in Europe.

Comrade Kim Il-song supported the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the German Democratic Republic in the efforts to establish a nuclear-free corridor and a zone free from chemical weapons in Central Europe.

Comrade Milos Jakes highly estimated the sincere efforts made by the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people for peace and peaceful reunification of the country, reliably defending the eastern outpost of socialism, and expressed full support for them.

Comrade Milos Jakes supported all the reasonable peace proposals advanced by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, especially the ones for holding talks between the military authorities of the North and the South, for establishing a nuclear-free, peace zone on the Korean peninsula, for holding multinational disarmament talks, for convening a North-South joint conference to discuss the urgent issues of detente and the recent one for holding bilateral or multilateral contacts and talks between the representatives of the political parties, groupings and strata in the North and the South, and emphasized that the realization of these proposals would contribute to improving the situation in Asia and the Pacific region as a whole as well as the situation on the Korean peninsula and preserving peace and security in this region.

Comrade Milos Jakes noted that the withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Korea at an early date taking along all nuclear weapons and military equipment is a prerequisite to peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification and expressed solidarity with the South Korean people in their righteous struggle for independence, democracy and reunification.

The supreme leaders of the two parties pointed out that the situation on the Korean peninsula is one of focal points for the present acute military tension and confrontation and stressed the need to intensify efforts for easing the tension and guaranteeing peace in this region.

They highly estimated the proposals and efforts of other socialist countries to guarantee security, create a sound political atmosphere in the Far East and Asia-Pacific region and turn this region into one of peace and cooperation free from nuclear weapon and war.

The talks directed attention to the question of taking joint steps in the international arena for a durable peace and security in the world.

The supreme leaders of the two parties emphasized that the INF treaty signed by the Soviet Union and the United States would be a significant first step toward realization of universal nuclear disarmament, and expressed the expectation that the efforts to reduce strategic offensive weapons 50 percent, while observing the treaty on interceptor missiles would bring about positive results.

They highly estimated the efforts of socialist countries to found a comprehensive international security system, build a nuclear- and violence-free world, prevent the militarization of space and fully remove all kinds of nuclear and chemical weapons, pointed to the significance of the all-European course to develop the situation soundly as a whole and supported constructive proposals and efforts of all Warsaw treaty member nations to defend peace and security in Europe and deepen trust between the countries.

The talks emphasized the increasing role of the Non-Aligned Movement in the international arena and expressed support and solidarity for the struggle of countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America and all the progressive peoples of the world against imperialism, old and new colonialism, racism and Zionism and for peace, democracy, national independence and the establishment of a new fair international economic order.

Along with this, they held that regional disputes be solved at an early date by means of dialogue and negotiation, free from any outside interference, in conformity with the desires of peoples of relevant countries and the interest of the cause of world peace.

The supreme leaders of the two parties touched upon the important role the international communist and working-class movements play in the struggle to realise democracy, national independence, peace and social progress against imperialism and stressed the need to make efforts to strengthen unity and cohesion of the international communist and working-class movements and increase their pull and role in the world arena.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with the results of the visit by Comrade Milos Jakes to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and expressed the belief that the meeting and talks between Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Milos Jakes in Pyongyang would be an important milestone in further strengthening and developing the traditional friendship and fraternal relations of cooperation between Korea and Czechoslovakia in the interest of the two peoples and the cause of socialism and peace.

Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, invited Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to pay an official goodwill visit to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

Daily Views CSSR Relations
SK0106101088 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1000 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Pyongyang June 1 (KCNA)—NODONG SIN-MUN today carries an editorial on the Korean visit by Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, upon the invitation of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The recent visit to Korea by Comrade Milos Jakes demonstrated friendship and unity between the two parties, states and peoples which are developing favourably with each passing day and marked an important occasion in further developing and strengthening them, the editorial says, and goes on:

The Korea-Czechoslovakia friendship has a long tradition. The peoples of the two countries established the close bonds of friendship in the common struggle against imperialism and for socialist construction on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism and have constantly developed and strengthened them.

The friendly relations between the two parties, two states and two peoples reached a new higher stage with the historical visit to Czechoslovakia by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in June 1984.

The recent meeting and talks between the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song and respected Comrade Milos Jakes in Pyongyang carried weighty significance in developing and strengthening the friendly and cooperative relations between Korea and Czechoslovakia in the interests of the two peoples and the cause of socialism and peace.

Respected Comrade Milos Jakes expressed support to all reasonable proposals for peace and reunification of Korea advanced by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song including the new proposal for convening a North-South joint conference for discussing the present problem of easing tensions and the proposal for holding bilateral and multilateral contacts and talks between representatives of parties, groupings and peoples of all walks of life in the North and the South. This is a great encouragement for our people.

The Czechoslovak Communist Party and government consistently oppose war and pursue the policy of defending security and peace in Europe.

The new initiative of Czechoslovakia for creating a zone of trust, cooperation and neighbourhood in the border area between the Warsaw Pact member nations and NATO members is constructive and realistic one which will make a practical contribution to security and a durable peace in Europe.

The Korean people will positively strive to convert the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone, and prevent another world war and reliably defend peace and the eastern post of socialism.

The Korean people will, as in the past, join hands with the fraternal Czechoslovak people in the struggle for the victory of the cause of socialism and communism, the editorial stresses.

Called on by Kim Il-song
SK3005044788 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0425 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] Pyongyang May 29 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, today called on Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, at the guest house.

Present on the occasion were Hong Song-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-premier of the Administration Council; Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Choe Chong-kun, minister of foreign trade; Kim Chae-pong, deputy director of a department of the WPK Central Committee; Yi In-kyu, vice-minister of foreign affairs; and Kim Kwang-sop, Korean ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

Comrade Kim Il-song was met at the guest house by Comrade Milos Jakes and by political suite members Ladislav Adamec, member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, deputy premier of the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and premier of the Czech

Government; Michal Stefanak, member of the Central Committee of the CCP and chief of the Department of International Politics of the Central Committee of the CCP; Jaroslav Molek, chief of the General Affairs Department of the Central Committee of the CCP; Jaromir Johanes, first deputy foreign minister of the CSR; Jiri Nemec, deputy minister of foreign trade of the CSR; Vzclav Herman, CSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the DPRK; and others.

Comrade Kim Il-song conversed with Comrade Milos Jakes in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Comrade Milos Jakes expressed deep thanks to Comrade Kim Il-song for the warm hospitality accorded him during his stay.

Comrade Kim Il-song exchanged greetings with Comrade Milos Jakes and hugged him at parting.

Exchanges Gifts With Kim Il-song
SK2805103588 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1024 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] Pyongyang May 28 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received a gift from Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party today.

Present on the occasion were political suite members and others accompanying Comrade Milos Jakes.

Also present were Hong Song-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-premier of the Administration Council, Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the WPK central committee, and other senior officials.

Comrade Milos Jakes explained the gift to Comrade Kim Il-song. Comrade Kim Il-song saw the gift and expressed thanks for it.

On the same day, Comrade Kim Il-song presented a gift to Comrade Milos Jakes.

He expressed deep thanks to Comrade Kim Il-song.

Presents Gift to Kim Chong-il
SK2805105388 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1039 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] Pyongyang May 28 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, received a gift from Comrade Milos Jakes, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, on an official goodwill visit to Korea.

The gift was handed to an official concerned.

Papers Praise Relations With Romania
SK2605120088 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1043 GMT 26 May 88

["Solid Relations of Friendship and Cooperation"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 26 (KCNA)—Dailies here today observe the 13th anniversary of the signing of the Korea-Romania Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation.

The signing of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Romanian Socialist Republic was of political significance in strengthening and developing onto a new higher stage the close friendly relations which were long forged and have been constantly developed on the basis of Chajusong of the parties and peoples of the two countries.

Over the past 13 years since the signing of the treaty, the Korea-Romania friendship has been further developed in depth and width in all spheres of politics, economy and culture and the peoples of the two countries are making advance together and they have closely supported and cooperated with each other on the road of realising the common goals and ideals, the author of the article says, and goes on:

The friendship between the two countries is so solid and in full bloom because it is based on the deep intimacy between the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and respected Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu.

We are satisfied with the daily development of the Korea-Romania friendship in full bloom in the spirit of the treaty of friendship and cooperation.

Today the Romanian people are making great successes in their endeavours to build a developed socialism and improve the people's material life, upholding the decisions of the 13th Congress of the Romanian Communist Party under the leadership of the party led by respected Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu.

Romania is positively striving to realise disarmament, prevent the danger of a nuclear war in Europe, convert the Balkan Peninsula into a zone of peace and cooperation free from nuclear and chemical weapons and safeguard world peace and security.

The Korean people are rejoiced as over their own [as received] over the successes made by the fraternal Romanian people in the revolution and construction and warmly hail them. They sincerely wish the Romanian people greater achievements in socialist construction.

Our people set store by the friendly and cooperative relations with the Romanian people and will in the future, too, make all their efforts to consolidate and develop these relations.

Foreign Ministry Statement on Japanese Action
SK3105084688 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1100 GMT 30 May 88

[Press statement by spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued 30 May in Pyongyang—read by announcer]

[Text] Because of an impolite and unreasonable measure taken by Japanese Government authorities recently, the DPRK team participating in the Ninth Asian Table Tennis Championships could not but return home after withdrawing halfway through the games. The Japanese Government authorities are fully responsible for the DPRK table tennis team, which could not participate in the games to the end, withdrawing from the games early.

Nevertheless, during the long 26 May news conference, a spokesman for the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, while unreasonably stating that the Japanese Government showed so-called goodwill and flexibility in approving our table tennis team's entry into Japan, babbled as if it did some significant favor to facilitate our table tennis team's entry into Japan. This is a foolish statement made out of ignorance of the basic norms of international law and usage.

The DPRK, as a full member of the Asian Table Tennis Association, has the right to participate in the recent Asian Table Tennis Championships. As long as any country of the world offers a place for international games, it has the responsibility to approve the entry of all member countries that will participate in the international games without discrimination. If it does not fulfill this responsibility, it cannot be chosen as a host country for the games.

Nevertheless, a spokesman for the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs verbosely babbled as if a significant favor was done to facilitate the entry of our table tennis team. This is nothing but a clumsy excuse designed to cover up and justify all the dirty crimes they committed at all costs.

A spokesman for the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs attempted to shift to our table tennis team and the Japanese Table Tennis Association responsibility for their unhesitatingly committing the very impolite and violent act of sending the table tennis team of our Republic out of the banquet hall early. This is an unreasonable statement. The problem does not lie in the notion that so-called conditions for entry were violated or that they were not properly conveyed, but in the fact that they resolutely drove out our athletes, who were having a meal, from the banquet hall. This is an incident

that is unimaginable in the civilized community in the 20th century and that can take place only in an uncivilized, barbarous society. Therefore, there is no room for explanation.

If viewed with common sense, how can having a meal with relatives be a violation of conditions or Japan's official laws or regulations. The essence of this incident does not lie in the notion that conditions were not met or that official laws were not kept, but in the fact that persons in authority in Japan, lured by the policy of considering our Republic their enemy, uncouthly perpetrated this incident without distinguishing the rules of etiquette after ignoring circumstances.

No matter what tricks they may resort to at this time, the Japanese authorities cannot justify or expunge their dirty act. The Japanese Government authorities must duly apologize to us for this incident and must immediately cease committing acts of deliberate provocation against our Republic and deliberately aggravating tension on the Korean peninsula in collusion with the United States and the persons in authority in South Korea. If the persons in authority in Japan continuously and unreasonably carry out the policy of considering us their enemy as inspired by the United States, this will only cause an ax to fall on their own feet.

End to 'Provocations' Demanded
SK3005230488 Pyongyang KCNA in English
2301 GMT 30 May 88

["Japanese Government Authorities Can Justify Their Rude Acts Against the DPRK Team With No Excuse.—Press Statement of DPRK Foreign Ministry Spokesman—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 30 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued a statement to the press today in connection with the statement of the Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman that the Japanese Government granted a good favor as to the entry of the DPRK table tennis team into the territory of Japan.

On May 26 the Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman told reporters a cock-and-bull story that the Japanese Government showed some "good will and flexibility" in approving the entry of our table tennis team into Japan, in an effort to make it appear that they granted a special favor for the entry of the DPRK team into Japan.

This is a foolish remark of those who have no knowledge of the elementary norms of international law and usage, the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman said, and went on:

The DPRK, as a full-fledged member of the Asian Table Tennis Federation, has the right to participate in the Asian table tennis championships this time.

Any country of the world which once offers a place for international games is obliged to issue an entry permit without discrimination to every member nation participating in the games and, when it fails to implement this obligation, it is not entitled to be a host country.

This notwithstanding, the Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesman this time made a lengthy statement to say that they granted a good favor for the entry of our table tennis team. This is nothing but a clumsy excuse to cover and justify their despicable criminal acts at any cost.

The Japanese Foreign Ministry spokesmun tried to lay at the door of our table tennis team and the Japanese table tennis association the blame for the extremely discourteous, outrageous strongarm act they committed without hesitation of sending the table tennis team of our Republic out of the banquet hall halfway. This is absolute baloney.

The point is not that the "terms of the entry" were violated or failed to be understood well, but that the Japanese government authorities arbitrarily sent our paddlers at table, who were invited as guests, out of the hall.

Such thing is quite unimaginable in a civilized society of the 20th century and is thinkable only in a uncivilized society of barbarians. Is there any room for excuse?

Judging by common sense, how can it be a "violation of terms" or be considered to be disobedience to Japan's official codes and regulations to share a meal with acquaintances.

In the final analysis, the case does not boil down to "violation of terms" or disobedience to "official codes" but to the rude behaviour of the Japanese authorities who, blinded with hostile policies toward our republic, lost reason to see courtesy common to people, oblivious of the circumstances.

With no petty trick can the Japanese authorities explain themselves for their mean act or blot it out.

The Japanese government authorities must apologize to us for the incident and immediately stop committing premeditated provocations against our Republic and deliberately aggravating the tension on the Korean peninsula in collusion with the United States and the South Korean authorities.

If the Japanese authorities persist in their hostile policy toward our Republic, at the instigation of the United States, it will be as foolish as lifting a rock only to drop it on its own feet.

Daily Decries Japanese Behavior
SK0106050788 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0457 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Pyongyang June 1 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comes out with a signed commentary hitting at the unwarranted behaviour of the Japanese Government authorities against the DPRK table tennis team which was participating in the Ninth Asian Table Tennis Championships.

The paper says: A spokesman for the Japanese Foreign Ministry called a press conference a few days ago and made a tirade to defend the Japanese government in making the DPRK team withdraw from the championships, by saying "Japan wants to blame North Korea because it neglected Japan's official codes and regulations."

At first, the Japanese reactionaries branded the attendance of the DPRK team at the luncheon hosted by the executive welcome committee in Niigata as violating "terms of entry". But now they are explaining themselves by saying that it violated Japan's codes and regulations.

This shows that the Japanese reactionaries are resorting to a clumsy excuse to shirk their responsibility for it.

If Japan's codes and regulations ban foreign teams visiting Japan from sharing meals with their acquaintances as the spokesman for the Japanese Foreign Ministry stated, it will self-expose that Japan is a country where even an elementary human etiquette is neglected.

The instance of branding the attendance of a foreign team at a welcome banquet as "political activity" and "violation of codes" can be found in no other country but in Japan.

This discloses that the gangster-like way of thinking of the Japanese imperialists who, occupying and dominating Korea and other Asian countries in the past, forced their intention as "law" and unconditional obedience to it remains still now deep-rooted in the minds of the present Japanese reactionary ruling circles.

The paper stresses:

The recent incident is an inevitable result of the hostile policy toward our republic pursued by the Japanese authorities in league with the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets to please them.

If anyone dances to the tune of others without chajusong, he will shamelessly behave, losing reason and oblivious of fairness and rule of conducts.

CPRF Denounces No Tae-u as Pro-Japanese
SK0106102288 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1016 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Pyongyang June 1 (KCNA)—The Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland published its Information No. 476 on May 31 denouncing the pro-Japanese flunkeyist behaviors of the traitor No Tae-u.

When he met Japanese Prime Minister Takeshita who flew to Seoul to attend his "presidential inauguration" in February, the traitor No Tae-u said the word "ordinary people" advertised by him could be found in "the commoners, populace and democracy" uttered by the then prime minister of Japan Inugai in 1932, thus admitting that he quoted his word "the era of ordinary people" from Inugai's remarks.

Earlier, when he met Japanese reporters, he made utterances openly posing as a pro-Japanese element, which Japanese reporters ridiculed as "flattering remarks to win Japan's support."

As the Japanese magazine "BUNGEI SHUNJU" November 1987 exposed, he called himself "Shinsaku Takasugi of South Korea" who worshipped the ideas and deeds of Shinsaku Takasugi, the senior of Hirobumi Ito who was the mastermind of Japan's Korean aggression.

This, notes the information, is a piffle which can be spewed forth only from the mouth of a despicable traitor steeped to the marrow in pro-Japanese flunkeyism.

In crawling on all fours before the Japanese ruling quarters, wagging his tails, the traitor No Tae-u pursues the heinous aim of propping up his power with the help of the Japanese militarists who are buoyed with reinvasion dream.

History and people will never pardon this mangy dual stooge of the United States and Japan.

Japanese-Koreans Should Attend Student Talks
SK3105050588 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0454 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Pyongyang May 31 (KCNA)—The chairman of the Korean student committee in his press statement May 30 expressed full support to the proposal of Japan-born Korean students to participate in the Panmunjom student talks, regarding it as a just initiative responding to the call of the nation.

The reality of today demands, above all, that national reconciliation and unity be promoted, even though the national reunification cannot be achieved this moment, he said, and added: To take the lead in meeting this national demand is a mission of the students of new

generation who should shoulder the future of the country and on this road there can be no distinction between the North and the South or between home and abroad.

He further said in his statement:

The Korean student committee warmly approves and supports the attendance of Korean students in Japan at the Panmunjom student talks and their participation in the across-the-country grand march and hopes that all Korean students in different regions and countries of the world, too, would join them.

Today when the realization of North-South student talks is a unanimous desire of all Korean students at home and abroad it stands out as a pressing issue which brooks no further delay.

The desire and demand of us students of new generation in the North and the South and overseas must be realized without fail and no one can bar it.

Those who try to drop a check-bar on the way of us going to hug each other at the square of national unity and reconciliation will face a stern judgment by history.

He bitterly denounced the anti-national, anti-dialogue acts of the South Korean rulers in refusing to deliver the letter of our side to the South Korean students for North-South student talks.

The Japanese authorities, he stressed, must discard their hostile policy against our nation, not bar the righteous act of the Korean students in Japan to attend talks of their brothers in their own homeland and soil and not lay any artificial obstacles in their way.

Paper Criticizes South's Reunification Policy
SK2805101488 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1001 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] Pyongyang May 28 (KCNA)—The director of the puppet legislation agency of South Korea, in an interview with reporters on May 25, tried to make it appear that the No Tae-u "regime" would put forth a new "policy of reunification", while confessing that its "proposals" for "dialogue" and "reunification" so far had been no more than a camouflage for propaganda effect and it had imitated dialogue for form's sake, not wanting real dialogue for reunification.

In a signed commentary NODONG SINMUN today says:

In the news briefing the director of the puppet legislation agency made plain what was the main factor of the rupture of each dialogue and impasse in the improvement of North-South relations despite our reasonable proposals for peace and reunification and all sincere efforts for their materialization.

The puppets are making quite a noise as if they would put forward a new "policy" for reunification. But, whatever they may bring forward, in view of the reactionary nature of the No Tae-u military fascist "regime", it could be nothing but a splittist proposal, not going an inch beyond the framework of the U.S. imperialists' "two Koreas" policy.

If the No Tae-u clique truly want dialogue and reunification, it should give up the anti-national splittist policy the traitor Chon Tu-hwan had pursued.

The "reunification proposal" brought forward by Chon Tu-hwan and the "three-stage policy toward the North" advertised by No Tae-u are all "two Koreas" scenarios put in their hands by the United States.

The South Korean rulers should reject the military occupation and interference in the internal affairs by the U.S. imperialists, the mastermind of national split and main obstacle to reunification, give up "the anti-communist state policy", refrain from suppressing public debates on reunification and from blocking the participation of all political parties and groupings and people in dialogue and reunification question and stop arms buildup and war rackets. This is a principled demand concerning the basic stand toward dialogue, peace and reunification.

The South Korean puppets must make clear the stand on this before talking about a new "policy of reunification" and "proposal".

Students' Anti-U.S. Tone Causes Confusion
SK2905081588 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0810 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] Pyongyang May 29 (KCNA)—The No Tae-u group announced that it decided to take "all-out measures" to "stringently deal with" the student movement in South Korea, alleging that it has recently been "copying" the North's calls and "tending to attempt at subverting the Olympics," according to a report from Seoul.

At a "cabinet meeting" on May 26 the puppets raised a hue and cry over the fact that, entering this year, the students' calls were changed to those on the "anti-U.S., reunification issues," inter-campus cooperation organizations have been gaining in scope, demonstrations become large-scale and thus a "leftist tendency has reached a state of apprehension."

This shows that the military fascist clique has been thrown into utter confusion by the fierce anti-U.S., anti-"government" struggle of students for independence, democracy and reunification, and hence, is trying to intensify fascist crackdown by charging them with connection with the North.

The anti-U.S. sentiments for reunification that are growing stronger with every passing day among the South Korean students are a conclusion they have drawn on the basis of a lesson of blood, not at the instigation by somebody.

Daily on South Opposition Figures' Declaration
SK0106101588 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1008 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Pyongyang June 1 (KCNA)—More than 10 representatives of South Korean opposition figures recently called a press conference and published a declaration on the situation in the name of 67 social organisations for democracy, urging the co-hosting of the Olympic games by the North and the South and realization of North-South student talks. NODONG SINMUN today comes out with a signed commentary hailing it.

The commentary recalls that earlier, Japan-born Korean students had a joint meeting and clarified their stand to participate in the North-South student talks and join the across-the-country grand march.

It says:

The question of reunification that affects the lot of the entire nation cannot be solved satisfactorily if it is discussed by any particular parties or authorities alone.

South Korean people of different strata are now calling for their participation in a dialogue for reunification, opposition figures proposing to have North-South political party talks and students initiating to have North-South student talks. This is based on the conviction that it is the road for the nation and national reunification for parties, groupings and people of all walks of life desirous of reunification to participate in the movement for reunification as masters.

Openly clamouring about a "dialogue controlled by the government" the puppets are wholly trampling underfoot a discourse of students and people on reunification.

This is a thrice-cursed criminal act which can be committed by vicious traitors, such as the No Tae-u group trying to monopolize dialogue and abuse it for confrontation, division and war policy.

No force can match the strength of people who are rising for national reconciliation, unity and reunification.

South Korea

KOC Chairman Interviewed on Olympic Cohosting
SK0106055888 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean
26 May 88 p 3

[Interview with Kim Chong-Ha, chairman of the Korean Olympic Committee (KOC) by CHOSON ILBO reporters Choe Chong-nim and Pak Kap-chol; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] According to a foreign news report from Tokyo on 25 May, North Korea's Kim Il-song is reported to have told the Mozambican president, who

recently visited North Korea, that North Korea will not participate in the Seoul Olympics. We are somewhat disappointed at this report because North Korea's participation was the last issue for which we made efforts to make the Seoul Olympics more perfect. Do you think this is North Korea's final decision?

[Kim] Even while I was holding talks with them [North Korean delegates to the Lausanne talks] I consistently felt that from the beginning, North Korea had decided not to participate and were making efforts to make an excuse to shift the responsibility onto our side. Therefore, I think it would be difficult for them to change their attitude themselves and to participate.

[Reporter] Is it not true that North Korea changed its attitude ever since Seoul was given the right to host the Olympics?

[Kim] When the right to host the 1988 Olympics was given to Seoul in Baden-Baden in 1981, North Korea insisted on reversing the decision itself. The reasons it put forth were: The Korean peninsula practically is still under a state of war; South Korea has a large amount of foreign debts; and the United States "forcibly occupied" South Korea.

However, sensing that the atmosphere was not in favor of their stubborn demand, North Korea then attempted to persuade the East European bloc to boycott the Seoul Olympics. It appeared that North Korea was greatly convinced of its success because at that time, the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics was held as a half Olympics due to the "unity" [of the East European bloc].

However, North Korea's idea seems to have been a miscalculation. It is well known that since then, North Korea frequently changed its attitude even while holding sports talks over four times under the arbitration of the International Olympics Committee [IOC], talking about "perpetuation of two Koreas" and so forth.

[Reporter] We understand that Article 34 of the Olympic Charter stipulates that the right to host the Olympics is given to a city and not to the state. Why did South Korea, which already obtained the right, and the IOC, for a long time, try to seek North Korea's participation?

[Kim] The right to host the Olympics is given to a city and not to a state to prevent political contamination of the Olympics. The IOC wished to attain East-West harmony for the first time in 12 years since the 1976 Montreal Olympics by having the whole world, including North Korea, attend the Olympics in Korea, which was divided as a result of the East-West cold war, thus seeking a symbolic significance in this.

As for South Korea which is superior [over North Korea] in every way, it should show generosity. Even now, I think that the joint participation in the Seoul Olympics is a shortcut to national reunification.

[Reporter] You attended North-South sports talks over four times in Lausanne under IOC supervision. Will you explain how the talks progressed?

[Kim] I was often distressed during the talks. Ever since the first talks were held in October 1985, we showed our position that we truly wanted North Korea's participation, and as an expression of our sincerity, we revealed our plan to share some games with them. If one carefully looks into our plan, one may say that our plan violates the Olympic Charter. However, we used such a handy way on the basis of interpretation that the yacht race is being held in Pusan.

[Reporter] This was indeed an exceptional proposal at that time. What was the IOC's reaction?

[Kim] Even IOC President Samaranch stated that this was a difficult decision and expressed his respect to our side's efforts. I will now explain about one aspect of the negotiations which shows how sincerely we wanted North Korea's participation. In the Olympics, the hosting nation deems it a privilege and pride to enter the opening ceremony last. However, we proposed to the North side to jointly enter the ceremony in the third row, exactly in the middle of six rows. Symbolically, this means that North Korea is being treated completely as a host country.

However, North Korea insisted that the title should be the "24th Choson Olympics" and if we did not like it, another name could be the "24th Pyongyang-Seoul Olympics." Furthermore, the number of sports games should be equally divided and the organization committee should be organized jointly and income from television relays and from sales of badges and commemorative coins should also be equally divided. The IOC was stunned by North Korea's claims.

[Reporter] Under such circumstances, talks were held over four times. We understand that at the second round of sports talks, the North Korean side put forth a plan for the formation of a single North-South team.

[Kim] The issue of forming a single North-South team was something which our side consistently called for. However, it was pointed out that this issue was a task between the related persons of the North and South and that the IOC would not interfere. [passage omitted]

At the second round of talks held in January 1986, we revealed our intention to give them the right to host three games including handball, volleyball, and some preliminary soccer games. In addition, we put forth a plan allowing the group bicycle event to be held as a race running from the North to the South. This means that we made another big concession. The idea that the bicycles start from North Korea and end in Seoul crossing the Military Demarcation Line has a symbolic meaning that we destroy the barriers between the North and the South.

[Reporter] During the third round of talks, the North side demanded eight games. What was the basis for this demand?

[Kim] The total number of games to be held during the Seoul Olympics is 23. Thus, North Korea insisted that 1/3 of all games be held in North Korea according to the proportion of the population of the North and South. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] North Korea maintains that if it participates in the Seoul Olympics, this would mean the recognition of two Koreas, in other words, the perpetuation of division. Some social circles, though very few, accept such logic by the North. What do you think of this view?

[Kim] In my opinion, the cohosting itself means taking the division as a fait accompli because North Korea is attempting to separately hold the Olympics based on the games allocated to it. Our position is to make an occasion for reconciliation between fellow countrymen by opening the door for the North to participate. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] How do you think North Korea will act in the future? If it expresses the will to participate, will you accept this?

[Kim] Although it is difficult in terms of time, if the North wants to participate, I certainly wish to see the games held both in the North and South. However, we should pay attention to the IOC position stressing that the cohosting of the Olympics, which is called for by the North Korean side, "cannot be realized even if the IOC is dissolved."

The issue of whether or not North Korea will commit terrorist acts during the Olympics is something that we should watch out for. However, I think the possibility is very high. Nevertheless, our policy is to further expand official and unofficial sports exchanges with North Korea.

We should restrain ourselves from trying to drive North Korea into a corner. Rather, we should drag it into the international stage. From this standpoint, I think that the plan of Kim U-chung, president of the Korean Soccer Association, to hold soccer games among South Korea, communist China, North Korea, and Japan, should be welcomed.

Official Notes Leaders Expected at Olympics
SK0106023488 Seoul YONHAP in English
0147 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Seoul, June 1 (YONHAP)—Top leaders of about 10 countries, including King Karl Gustav XVI of Sweden and King Baudouin I of Belgium, are scheduled to attend the opening ceremony of the Seoul Olympics, a government source said Wednesday.

Also among the top leaders who have expressed their intention to attend the ceremony are President Hussain Muhammad Ershad of Bangladesh, President Oscar Arias Sanchez of Costa Rica, Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita of Japan, Grand Duke Jean of Luxembourg, Crown Prince Felipe of Spain and Crown Prince Maha Wachiralongkon of Thailand.

In addition, Masaaki Fujita, speaker of Japan's House of Councillors, Matti Ahde, speaker of Finland's parliament, and Leonilde Jotti, president of Italy's Chamber of Deputies, are scheduled to attend the opening ceremony at the invitation of Korea's National Assembly speaker.

Italy's foreign minister Julio Andreotti, Bolivia's foreign minister Guillermo Bedregal Gutierrez, director-general of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Federico Mayor, and director-general of the World Health Organization (WHO) Hiroshi Nakajima will also attend the ceremony at the invitation of the Korean Foreign Ministry.

The Seoul Olympics are scheduled to be held here from Sept. 17-Oct. 2.

Samaranch Praises Seoul's Olympic Preparedness
SK0106010588 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
1 Jun 88 p 3

[Text] Visiting IOC president Juan Antonio Samaranch praised the full preparedness of Seoul city for the September Olympic Games in his courtesy call to Seoul City Hall yesterday.

In his meeting with Seoul Mayor Kim Yong-nae, the IOC president, who had been awarded a honorary citizenship in his first call to the City Hall in 1982, said, "No other city can do better than Seoul in preparing for the games."

On behalf of 10 million Seoul citizens, Mayor Kim presented some porcelain to Samaranch in a gesture of hearty welcome and the IOC head gave a stadium-modelled souvenir in return.

Thanking Samaranch for his full support and devotion to the Seoul Olympics, Mayor Kim said, "We are happy to say that Olympic preparation comes to an end with the dedication of the Indoor Swimming Pool and apartment complexes to accommodate athletes and press members."

Kim Un-yong, Korean member of the IOC, accompanied Samaranch and Mun Tae-kap, president of the National Supporting Committee for the Seoul Olympics, and Sin Hak-chin, chairman of the City Advisory Council, attended the meeting, representing citizens.

Samaranch said that Seoul has become the most important city in the world not only for the sake of the Olympics but for world peace, highly evaluating the significance of the Seoul Games.

The IOC president showed a special interest in 160 poles flying five-ringed and emblem flags in front of City Hall, wishing that the entire city overflow with the flags by the opening of the games.

He had lunch and viewed slides featuring Korean culture, tourism and everyday lives of Seoul citizens.

Kim Yong-sam on PRC, DPRK Diplomacy Proposal
SK0106014588 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
1 Jun 88 p 2

[Text] Kim Yong-sam said yesterday that he was willing to visit mainland China as part of "suprapartisan diplomacy" to help reduce tension between South and North Korea and support the government's "nordpolitik."

The president of the opposition Reunification Democratic Party revealed President No Tae-u's suggestion that he and Party for Peace and Democracy president Kim Tae-chung visit China and the Soviet Union respectively for suprapartisan diplomacy.

According to the RDP president, President No and the heads of the three opposition parties agreed on the necessity for suprapartisan diplomatic efforts towards Communist countries to reduce tension on the Korean peninsula, in their meeting Saturday.

PPD president Kim Tae-chung still has not responded to the president's proposal for his visit to the Soviet Union.

South Korea has no diplomatic relations with the two Communist giants.

Kim Yong-sam told a meeting of Executive Council yesterday that he suggested in the Chongwadae meeting last week that the government positively consider paying the foreign debts of North Korea.

The RDP president said that he also suggested that the National Assembly adopt a resolution calling for the participation of North Korea in the Seoul Olympics to open in September.

"I made the proposal for the purpose of providing momentum for a reduction in tension between the South and North and inviting North Korea to participate in the Olympics," Kim said.

Kim went on, "We should still employ all possible means to invite the North to participate in the Olympics, though Kim Il-sung has made it clear that the North will not join in the Games."

Mozambique President Joaquim Alberto Chissano reported last week after a meeting with the North Korean leader, "Kim Il-sung said North Korea was not going to participate in the Olympics because he does not want to condone the policy of two Koreas."

The foreign debt of North Korea amounted to \$4.06 billion as of late 1986. It breaks down to \$2.3 billion to Western countries and \$1.83 billion to Communist countries.

RDP president Kim said that North Korea is incapable of paying back its foreign debts.

"Our country has accumulated a considerable amount of trade surplus in recent years and therefore, our government should positively consider paying the foreign debts of the North," Kim said.

South Korea recorded a current account surplus of \$9.85 billion last year.

Kim also suggested that South Korea may import iron ore, coal and machinery from the North in return for paying its debts as a means of establishing economic relations between the two Koreas.

The RDP president added that South Korea's capital and technology and the manpower of North Korea may be combined for joint venture in foreign countries such as Siberia and mainland China.

The opposition leader added that the South and the North may promote their trade on a barter system.

Kim then called upon the government to consider taking various steps to give North Korea economic favors.

Possibility of Trip Termed 'Difficult'
SK0106040088 Seoul YONHAP in English
0354 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Seoul, June 1 (YONHAP)—Opposition leader Kim Yong-sam indicated Monday that behind-the-scenes negotiations are under way for his possible visits to China and the Soviet Union.

Kim, president of the second largest opposition Reunification Democratic Party (RDP), said, President No Tae-u seemed to have information on the developments in my party's behind-the-scenes negotiations (for my visits to China and the Soviet Union).

Kim quoted President No as telling leaders of the three major opposition parties, including himself, during a meeting Saturday, that it would be desirable for opposition leaders to visit China and the Soviet Union.

Kim said, however, it is premature to discuss his visits to the two communist countries.

Sources close to Kim said he is sounding out indirectly the possibility for his visit to China through senior RDP members who have friends in Chinese academic and political circles.

The sources said Kim and his party doubt that No, who tried to visit China as a presidential candidate last year, would allow him to make such a trip.

Encouraged by No's remarks on Saturday, however, Kim and his party are poised to involve themselves in northern diplomacy, which refers to diplomatic efforts to improve relations with communist bloc nations, the sources said.

Meanwhile, a foreign ministry spokesman, who asked that he not be named, said, it would be difficult at present for politicians to visit China or the Soviet Union.

Denying any governmental involvement in possible visits to China or the Soviet Union by opposition leaders, the spokesman said, we have not yet gone that far on the governmental level.

The spokesman added, however, it would be possible for them to visit those countries for the purpose of attending, if any, international conferences or sports events.

New Assembly Speaker Pledges Fairness
SK3105015988 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
31 May 88 pp 2, 5

[Text] New National Assembly Speaker Kim Chae-sun said yesterday he would fairly preside over Assembly plenary sessions beyond partisan and factional interests.

Kim said he would devote himself to helping produce the politics of new perspectives based on interparty compromise and negotiations.

"When rival political parties are committed to dialogue and compromise like creating a masterpiece of art, the 13th Assembly could produce excellent politics," said the 64-year-old lawmaker of the ruling Democratic Justice Party at a press meeting.

The five-term lawmaker stressed that five elements are indispensable for any government to retain its rule. They are, he said, legitimacy, liberal democratic political and economic systems, support of the military and politics seeking popular support.

"Without them, no regime can rule amid social stability," said the new speaker.

Asked if he is willing to give up the party membership of the DJP, Kim said, "I've joined the party and it would be awkward for me to say I'll abandon the party membership."

Evaluating the June 29 democratic announcement by President No Tae-u, Kim said he assumed the speakership to "help lay a brick" for the building of the new era following the democratic announcement.

"My 35 years of political career include 10 years each in the ruling and opposition parties and 15 years out of established politics, but I've never belonged to a group pursuing undemocratic politics," Kim said.

The new speaker was returned to parliament in the April elections after about 15 years of absence from the political arena.

The 64-year-old politician climbed to the top of the Assembly 36 years after he stepped into politics in 1952, one year after he graduated from Seoul National University College of Commerce. Kim became acquainted with President No Tae-u when No was a junior officer in Chulwon, Kangwon-do where he was elected an assemblyman.

He once edited a monthly magazine titled "Dawn" which was fighting against the dictatorship of former President Syngman Rhee in the waning period of Rhee's government. Rhee stepped down following the Student Uprising on April 19, 1960.

A native of Pyongyang, the north Korean capital, Kim was first elected an assemblyman on the now defunct Democratic Party ticket in the general elections conducted after the April 19 uprising.

As the military revolution toppled the Democratic Party government in 1961, he was put into prison for one year.

Kim joined the Democratic Republican Party which was organized by the late President Pak Chong-hui.

While being elected a legislator for the third consecutive term, Kim served as floor leader, spokesman and in other important posts of the DRP.

He suffered political persecution after proposing a constitutional amendment for the implementation of Yusin (revitalization) system in 1972, which opened the way for former President Pak Chong-hui to prolong his rule.

He failed to win the party nomination in the first general elections under the Yusin system.

Instead, he became a three-year-term legislator as a member of the Yusin Chongu-hoe (Revitalization Political Association), but he attended the Assembly for only one day.

Kim published a monthly magazine called "SAEMTO" (liberally means fountain) in 1970, a couple of years before he retired from politics.

He started again his political activities from the outset of the Sixth Republic by joining the Pan-National Council for Promotion of Democracy and National Reconciliation. Kim enjoys golf and lives in Seoul along with his wife, mother and fourth son and his daughter-in-law. He has four sons.

Addresses Assembly Opening

*SK3105111388 Seoul Television Service in Korean
0400 GMT 30 May 88*

[Speech by Kim Chae-sun, speaker of the National Assembly, at the opening of the 13th National Assembly on 30 May at the National Assembly Hall—live]

[Text] Esteemed President No Tae-u, Chief Justice Kim Yong-chol, and Cabinet members, including Prime Minister Yi Hyon-chae, valuable domestic and foreign guests, and respected members of the National Assembly:

Today, we are gathered here to open the 13th National Assembly. This is an occasion for the National Assembly instituted according to the stipulations of the Constitution, which was finalized based on agreement between the ruling and opposition parties and the people's absolute support to open a new chapter of parliamentary democracy amid the attention of not only our people, but also of the world.

It is a great honor for me to deliver an opening speech on this occasion as the speaker of this historic 13th National Assembly. Also, I take great pride in having to share weal and woe with you, my respected fellow members of the National Assembly, over the creative course of democratic constitutional politics which will unfurl before our eyes. I express my profound gratitude to the people who have sent us to this place.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of founding of the Government of the Republic of Korea. For the first time in our history, our people have established a new, legitimate Republic by realizing a peaceful change of government. This is indeed a year of historic significance.

There is a saying that democratic politics develop in proportion to the level of the people. Looking back over the 40-year history of our constitutional politics, we feel misery instead of deep emotion. This is because simply too many youths died over the course of defending liberal democracy against the communist dictatorial ideology and offered their youth and even their lives on the altar of democratic development.

Here in this place we confirm that their noble suffering and sacrifices have become the indestructible foundation of democratic Korea. At the same time, we also confirm at this moment that liberal democracy, long before it is an article of law or political system, is the true way of thinking and the true outlook on life and on the world that guides our individual and collective lives in a correct and rich manner.

Once again, we confirm at this moment that what our people have achieved, through the undemocratic ordeals they had to painfully suffer in the political, economic, social, and cultural fields since the founding of the country, is faith in democracy and self-confidence and

that the shaping of our people's national harmony, which they have been able to achieve only after shedding blood, are our Sixth Republic and the 13th National Assembly, which we are now opening.

Respected comrades, what are we here for? Why have the people summoned us to this place? Are we not here to realize the call of the people to liquidate yesterday's order by which political power reined over the people with egotism and self-righteousness and to embody justice in all sectors of public living? The people who long for the promotion of freedom in all domains of public living, for the firm establishment of fairness, for guarantees of peace, and for the pursuit of prosperity demand that we create new legislative systems and customs that make realization of their aspirations possible.

We have been selected as their spokesmen to run politics for the people in a way that the people want, not politics that serves as a struggle to monopolize power.

Each party's share of seats in the 13th National Assembly, a result of the small electoral district system in which the people's opinion has been expressed more clearly, is mysterious to the point where one becomes fearful of it.

The new situation in which no party has a majority of seats has led to the emergence of a new political structure in which four parties coexist on par with each other. It makes one imagine that the entire population of 43 million people of all walks of life has now filled this assembly hall, with no one missing.

The situation forces those in political power to give up egotism and self-righteousness and to adopt dialogue and compromise, the essence of democracy. Is this a mere coincidence? How can anyone question that it is an order from the heaven that the 13th National Assembly, which is destined to determine the direction our country will follow in its move toward the 21st Century, should build a monumental accomplishment called democratization for generations to come?

It is undeniable that some people, seeing the emergence of the political structure in which four parties coexist on a par, must have recalled the strife among the Four Factions during the Yi Dynasty. No doubt they were concerned about the possible development of a chaotic political situation.

My respected fellow assemblymen, let us humbly vow to the people that we will devote our wisdom and sincerity to having historians in the future record this political structure in which four parties coexist on a par as the golden section that has firmly established a tradition of politics run based on dialogue and compromise.

My fellow assemblymen, on this occasion of opening the National Assembly, I am going to briefly review the situation that surrounds us. The reality that surrounds us is far different from that of the past. Serious and diverse challenges lay in wait for us.

In social terms, relatively young generations that were born in the days that followed the founding of our country are said to account for 75 percent of our population. These people who have experience and values far different from those of the older generation have emerged as the new driving force behind history.

Deeply concerned about democracy, nationalism, and dispossessed social sectors, these people have raised many questions to the older generations.

In terms of economy, businessmen who have not only achieved today's economic miracles over the rubble of the Korean war, but have also played the role of locomotive in developing our economy amid the envy of the people of the world hope that they can be free by extricating themselves from the restrictions laid down by the old order, all for more rapid economic progress. Their demands are so technical that they are beyond the comprehension of laymen and their size and volume are growing vast over the passage of time.

In terms of culture, the extremely sensuous consumer culture and the doctrinist culture that is very reactionary to the former, forming polarization, have created chaos in the consciousness of the people.

In terms of politics, as a result of the 29 June declaration, the presidential election held on 16 December last year, and the general elections held last 26 April, the method of our political change has proven to be a method that is to be achieved based on agreement and the principle of coexistence, by peaceful and democratic means, not by revolutionary or reactionary means.

When we look at international circumstances, we note that the Soviet Union and communist China are attempting to lead the opening of the era of the Pacific, declaring reform and open policies.

Both Eastern and Western camps are still at two extremes, like during the cold war, in terms of the military and politics. However, exchanges of manpower and the economy have become active beyond our past imagination. As a result, the dynamic relations in the international order are changing. Fortunately or unfortunately, Northeast Asia, including the Korean peninsula, is becoming the centripetal point in such relations.

Such new phenomena in our era demand that our 13th National Assembly should define its mission in a way different from the past. The primary task facing the 13th National Assembly is to successfully host the Seoul

Olympics, a great festival of mankind, with pride. Successful hosting of the Olympics will provide an occasion for our country to take a great leap forward.

We will courageously come out from a corner in Northeast Asia and soon play a major role in the era of the West Coast, and later in the era of the Pacific. Viewing the trend of the situation around the Korean peninsula, including the Soviet Union and communist China, relations between North and South Korea will basically change after the Olympics, whether North Korea participates or not.

Our 13th National Assembly should play the role of preparing for an era of dialogue for reunification while actively coping with changes in the situation around the Korean peninsula and taking the lead in such a situation.

I believe that for this, reestablishment of relations between the ruling and opposition circles and recovery of the true position of the National Assembly are necessary. Many patriotic independence movement fighters dedicated their precious lives for the nation's liberation under the Japanese imperialists' rule. However, our people faced the moment of the 15 August liberation without any preparation for founding an independent state, being unable to foresee it. Thus, we could not help but accept the division of the nation and the people by outside forces.

Learning a lesson from this, the 13th National Assembly should prepare for national reunification in an active and developmental manner so as to cope with reunification of the North and the South, whenever such a moment may draw near. When we complete such substantive preparations, we will take the lead in the era of the Pacific—the century for reunification—based on the foundation of free democracy, which we proudly built, and capitalism.

Greeting the era of the Pacific, we should not neglect relations with traditional allies, including the United States, amid expectations for active exchanges with communist nations, including the Soviet Union and Communist China. In particular, we should pay keen attention to the fact that relations with the United States, our blood alliance, are based on the outlook of value, standing aloof from worldly interest. Thus, I believe that our National Assembly should constructively cope with all problems that arise in relations between Korea and the United States.

There are a great number of problems that require our care in our society. Many discords and injustices have been accumulated in our society while past politicians wasted all their energies in the struggle to protect or oppose political systems. Discord is taking place in various domains of society, including between employers and employees, between industrial facilities and victims of pollution, between manufacturers and consumers, between central and local areas, between large

and small enterprises, between old and young generations, between districts, between urban developers and residents whose houses were forcibly removed, and between the government and civilians.

In addition, such irregularities over the course of industrialization, including environmental pollution, expanding adult diseases, decadent trends, major crimes, alienation of disabled persons, unmarried mothers, drugs, violence, and noise pollution await our sincere attention.

No longer can such social problems be cured by the established political and economic subscriptions that places a premium on growth. Just as we are concerned about our family members' health, we should concentrate our wisdom, knowledge, and courage on making the people spiritually and physically healthy through our love for them.

My respected fellow assemblymen, we should accept into this assembly building all problems that arise in all sectors of our society, instead of placing them in the hands of the street demonstrators, to discuss and settle them. We should not make the National Assembly an institution that generates problems, instead we should make an institution that settles problems.

Without fail, we should take this task upon ourselves to provide the people with peace, prosperity, and happiness. The process of carrying out this work will be truly rewarding and delightful.

I would like to cite, first, universal values, also known as common sense; second, agreement reached after ample discussion; and, third, active cooperation for matters agreed upon, as the three virtues we should be prepared for this sacred enterprise.

Our 13th National Assembly should set in motion politics that serve the people and not be a venue where the elite contend with each other to seize power.

Let us now deplore the childish habit of not even meeting with assemblymen of other political parties, as demonstrated by political quarters in the past. Let us make parties sit together face to face like innocent children to usher in truly high-grade politics to promote the national interest and the welfare of the people.

The people will certainly correctly judge who has truly served them. The greatest fruit we have reaped in the political history of the past 40 years is the confirmation of the fact that our people love justice and that they make correct judgment.

My respected fellow assemblymen, before concluding my opening speech, let me reconfirm one thing of which we are well aware. Under our political structure centered on the president, our contemporary people have chosen

President No and entrusted their hope to him. Of course, providing checks and balances on the administration is a sacred duty assigned to our National Assembly by the people.

Also, unsparing encouragement to the president so that he can display his ability to the fullest extent to achieve the unanimous hope of our contemporary people is at once an act that demonstrates our National Assembly's capacity for tolerance and dignity. I believe our 13th National Assembly clearly has the ability to bring the era of President No Tae-u to beautiful fruition.

My respected fellow assemblymen, what are we here for? I am now looking back on the day when we first aspired to be politicians, with our hearts filled with the endless love for the fatherland and the people. I am also repeating a sentence in the old textbook that states: Politics is a process of translating national ideals into reality.

I would like to add to that the technique of living together with other people is democratic politics. Gone is the era of murderous strategy. I declare the beginning of an era of wise management.

My respected fellow assemblymen, at this very significant moment which is important at home and abroad, I confess that it is on the warm support of you assemblymen that I will depend, whether I, a person of limited ability, can implement the duty assigned to me as the speaker of the house or not depends entirely on the warm support of you assemblymen. In particular, I will depend greatly on the high statesmanship of the leaders of the ruling and opposition parties.

I am convinced that ultimately, we are all inseparable comrades when it comes to the warm, single-minded love of the country and people. The ruling and opposition parties are destined to share equal responsibility for our people.

If you, my fellow assemblymen, allow me to do so, I will conclude my speech with a sincere prayer: May God, whom I believe in, be with you always. Thank you.

No Says South Should Not Ease Preparedness
SK0106120588 Seoul YONHAP in English 1155 GMT
1 Jun 88

[Text] Seoul, June 1 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u said Wednesday South Korea should not loosen its precautions and preparedness against North Korea's possible attempt to use its Mt. Kumgang (Diamond) Dam for offensive purposes despite recent wire reports that North Korea has suspended construction of the dam on the northern tributary of the Han River.

Since we don't have any clear evidence (supporting the truths of the reported stoppage of the Mt. Kumgang Dam's construction), we should not neglect our vigilance nor loosen defensive measures, No told a group of people

involved in the construction of the Peace Dam, a counter-dam designed to repulse a possible attempt by the North to use water for offensive purposes.

The first-phase construction of South Korea's peace dam was completed Friday, 15 months after the ground was broken for it on the upper reaches of the North Han river on Feb. 28, 1987.

No said that it was fortunate that South Korea was now ready to counter North Korea's water offensive by completing the first-phase construction of the peace dam and stage the Seoul Olympic games safely.

North Korea began construction of the huge dam on a northern tributary of the Han River, about 150 kilometers northeast of Seoul and 10 kilometers north of the DMZ on Oct. 21, 1986.

When completed, the North Korean dam will reportedly create a reservoir capable of storing up to 20 billion tons of water, posing a serious threat to South Korea's security.

If the North Korean dam is destroyed, either intentionally or accidentally, torrents of water would flood the central region of South Korea including Seoul, according to concerned authorities.

President No, at the same time, attacked certain groups of people for their engagement in sentimental and unrealistic debates on the reunification issues. He called upon the people to refrain from engaging in the unrealistic debates on unification issue while denouncing such debates as an irresponsible act of siding with the North Korean contentions.

Burma

Article Predicts Downfall of Government

BK2805085988 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese 1200 GMT 26 May 88

["Article": "No Force Can Contain the Storm of the People's Struggle"]

[Text] Following negotiations with British imperialism, the AFPFL [Anti-Fascist People's Freedom League] government inherited administrative power. The Ne Win military clique, which served as the executioner in the brutal oppression of all the races in the country under the rule of that government, usurped power by force of arms in 1962. Soon after the usurpation of power, Ne Win himself vilely declared that he was ready to match sword with sword and spear with spear. He then went on to ruthlessly massacre unarmed university students—who did not even have a needle to call a weapon and were demanding their just rights. The campus of the Rangoon University was awash with the blood of students. The Students Union building was also dynamited and destroyed. Fascism [passage indistinct].

The BSPP [Burma Socialist Program Party] one-party dictatorial military government brutally killed, imprisoned, and arrested the working people, including the students [passage indistinct].

However, the recent March student uprising shattered their dream. The BSPP one-party dictatorial military government covered up the true events of the student movement that started on 12 March and resorted to all means to spread false news. However, foreign news media as well as a VOPB correspondent, reported the true events about the students uprising [words indistinct].

The BSPP one-party dictatorial military government deployed thousands of men from various armed units, including the police, security forces, the Army, and armored car units to brutally and despicably massacre university students who had moved en masse to put forward their just demands. Amid such brutality and oppression, the students realized their dream, openly declaring the formation of the All-Burma Students Union, the Rangoon University Students Union, and the Mandalay University Students Union. The student masses [passage indistinct].

The following are the demands [words indistinct]:

- A. To permit free [words indistinct];
- B. To [words indistinct];
- C. To give democratic rights to the people;
- D. To immediately release all detained students and (?people);
- E. To keep the schools open [words indistinct];
- F. To strengthen the bonds of eternal friendship between the students and the teaching staff;

- G. To make the government that has impoverished the country to step down; and
- H. To form a new government that safeguards the interests of the people.

When the people saw the brutal killings of the students they realized that the just demands of the students and people were identical with their own feelings, and that they could not help but join the students. The students movement in Rangoon kept growing with the participation of students from middle schools and high schools.

Under these circumstances, the administrative team headed by Sein Lwin [BSPP joint general secretary and State Council secretary] and based at the People's Assembly Building decided to brutally suppress the growing movement of the students and people. They not only used various kinds of weapons on the people and but also arrested thousands. The people's movement in Rangoon has calmed down temporarily. However, the situation is just a lull before the storm; a temporary calm readying for an explosive uprising by the people in the entire country.

The lives of the people from all strata of society and classes have deteriorated each day due to the erroneous and reactionary policies of the BSPP one-party dictatorial military government, and it has come to a point where the people can no longer tolerate the situation. The entire masses have an ardent desire to change this dreadful situation. Under these circumstances, no one should think that the joint struggle of the students and people will be confined to major cities like Rangoon and Mandalay, because it will also take place in major and small towns as well as rural areas.

If the one-party dictatorial military government continues to uphold its erroneous and reactionary policies and suppresses the people in a fascist manner, no force will be able to prevent certain commanders and soldiers of the Armed Forces—the supporting pillar of the military government—who, out of love for the country and sympathy for their parents and people, come to the side of their parents and people to join the struggle against the BSPP one-party dictatorial government.

When that integration takes place, a stormy struggle will certainly take place to remove the current BSPP one-party dictatorial military government in accordance with the desire of the entire people, and this will be followed by the establishment of an interim government that has the capability to draft a new constitution that guarantees the rights of the people, to establish internal peace, build national solidarity, give democratic rights to the people, reconstruct the national economy, and practice a strictly nonaligned foreign policy.

The struggle waged by the various strata and classes and the indigenous working people and the armed struggle being waged by the indigenous people will certainly become one. The storm of the struggle that has become

integrated will then grow stronger and will certainly bring about an important change to the political history of Burma. No one can reverse this phenomenon.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Criticizes Australian MP's
BK2905080088 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0419 GMT 29 May 88

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, May 29 (BERNAMA)—Prime Minister Dr Mahathir has told a group of Australian Members of Parliament to stop interfering in Malaysia's domestic affairs and to concentrate instead on fair treatment for the aborigines and Asians in their midst.

In a letter to them, Dr Mahathir says Malaysia owes nothing to them it hasn't repaid.

The prime minister was responding to a letter sent to him in March and signed by 105 government and opposition parliamentarians questioning the government's wisdom in detaining under the Internal Security Act some 100 people following the October crackdown last year on persons suspected of instigating racial animosities.

The letter, dated March 18, quoted Australian press reports which accused the Malaysian authorities of torturing some of those arrested, which in effect is contrary to the public statements made by some of the released detainees who praised the police for treating them well.

The contents of the letter, made public in Canberra and picked up by various international news agencies and widely publicized by the Australian press and the media of the neighboring ASEAN countries, were described by some diplomats here as a "gross interference in Malaysia's domestic affairs".

It reads in full:

Dear Prime Minister,

We have been alarmed by reports in the Australian press which have stated that since Oct 28 last year, more than 100 Malaysian citizens have been arrested and detained under Section 73 of the Internal Security Act.

Those arrested included prominent opposition parliamentarians and civil rights activists such as the leader of the Democratic Action Party, Mr Lim Kit Siang and the leader of the public interest group Aliran, Dr Chandra Muzaffar.

Amnesty International regards those arrested not as threats to Malaysian internal security but as prisoners of conscience and the International Commission of Jurists has stated that the government's action is motivated as a desire to silence its political opposition.

We, the undersigned members of the Australian Parliament wish to express to you our concern over the observance of accepted human rights standards in Malaysia.

We regard the laws under which these people were arrested as unworthy of a democratic state and we believe the continued detention of these prisoners of conscience to be a gross violation of human rights.

Dr Mahathir, in his reply dated April 25, said the Australians gave themselves too much airs and thought they should advise all governments in Southeast Asia how to run their countries.

The full text of Dr Mahathir's reply, addressed to Lewis Kent, the Australian MP for Hotham who organized the letter, reads as follows:

"The concern expressed by your Australian members of Parliament over the arrests of Malaysians involved in instigating racial disharmony in Malaysia is laudable.

"It would be more laudable if you care to study carefully the facts and the background before you make your condemnation.

"Unlike Australia, which was seized from the aborigines and designated as a settlement for the British criminals, Malaysia was populated with Malays when the British were invited to advise the Malays sultans on modern administration.

"As usual, the British simply took over the country and did as they pleased.

"Ignoring the views of the indigenous people, they allowed wholesale immigration of incompatible Chinese and Indians. Thus, when we achieved independence, 50 percent of the population was made up of descendants of the immigrants.

"The British colonial government practised a divide and rule policy and an autocratic system to ensure racial peace. Independent Malaysia opted for a democratic government, which subjects the government to constant pressure and threats by the irresponsible in society.

"Racists among them, whether Malays, Chinese or Indians, constantly stir up racial animosities. The most blatant racists are usually educated and are well versed in the manipulation of democratic freedom for their ends:

"Their methods differ very little from the communist front organizations. Indeed in many cases, they are the same people or they work together.

"In 1969, race riots broke out because the government then did not read the signs. We are not going to allow that to happen. Acting after the outbreak is like locking the stable after the horse gets out. To be worthwhile, we must take preventive action according to the British formulative preventive detention act.

"Academics, environmentalists and leaders of consumers associations, etc. were not arrested because they were academics etc. They were arrested because they instigated racial animosities.

"Surely it is suggested that academics or opposition members be exempted from the provisions of the law. It may interest you that many members of the government parties were also arrested, questioned and some were detained. Those arrested are of all races and religious beliefs. We do not discriminate.

"Since my government took over in 1981, most of the people detained under the Internal Security Act have been released. Under the three previous governments, some 2,000 people languished in detention.

"In 1987, there were only 300 hard-core communists who refused to forswear violence who remained in detention. Of 106 brought in for questioning in 1987, only 50 are detained.

"Malaysian laws are harsh. They have to be if we are going to have stability in a country used to British authoritarian rule and consequently unfamiliar with democracy.

"Most newly independent countries could not manage a democratic system and reverted to British-style authoritarian rule. Here the people can decide how harsh the laws should be by choosing the government they have faith in. We are not beholden to anyone else, least of all to members of Parliament of some other nations.

"When Australia was at the stage of Malaysia's present development, you solved your aborigines problem by simply shooting them. You made sure of your present white supremacy by your white Australia policy. Even now, there is discrimination against colored people.

"If you are really not racist, you should do what the British did to us—admit as many Chinese and Indians as are willing to make Australia their home until they make at least 50 percent of your population.

"If at that stage they demand that Chinese and Indian be Australia's media of instruction and you comply, then we will listen to your views on how to run Malaysia.

"In the meantime, please concentrate on fair treatment for the aborigines and Asians in your midst and leave us alone. Australians give themselves too much airs and think they should advise all the governments in Southeast Asia how to run their countries."

An agency report from Canberra subsequently quoted Mr Kent as describing Dr Mahathir's letter as very arrogant.

"Whatever the early British settlers of Australia did here to our aborigines does not excuse human rights violations in Malaysia," he was quoted to have said.

Several observers here, when told about Dr Mahathir's letter, said although it might sound a bit harsh, the MPs deserved such a reply for their uncalled-for interference in Malaysia's affairs.

"In the first place, they have no business to send the letter to the prime minister," one observer said.

They agreed that if only the Australian MPs were to do a bit of homework, they would not have written the letter.

The Australians, they said, should take cognizance of how well peace-loving Malaysians reacted to the government's move last October to restore confidence and racial harmony in the country.

They also attributed the current atmosphere of peace and stability, as against uncertainty and widespread rumor-mongering last year, to the government's swift action to avoid trouble.

Commentary Lands Criticism

BK3105095388 Kuala Lumpur International Service
in English 0800 GMT 31 May 88

["News commentary"]

[Text] Every country has the right to act in the interests of national security and peace. This is the reason Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed told a group of Australian members of Parliament [MPs] to stop interfering in Malaysia's domestic affairs. The MP's are believed to have made statements about Malaysia's Internal Security Act, accusing the Malaysian authorities of having arrested people and torturing some of those who were detained. The statements were made public in Canberra, Australia.

Apart from amounting to gross interference in the nation's internal affairs, the Australian MP's, by making such statements and accusations, could have tarnished Malaysia's image in the eyes of the world, though it is very much doubted.

The prime minister, in his reply, had expressed that it would be more laudable for the Australians to have carefully studied the situation, the facts, and the background before making any condemnation.

It must be appreciated that when a government implements a certain law, it is for a special, specific reason or purpose. In the case of the implementation of the ISA or the Internal Security Act, the government, after very careful study, had felt that certain controlled measures needed to be taken to safeguard the peace and tranquility of the nation, preventing anyone either from inside or outside from undermining the freedom being enjoyed by Malaysians of all walks of life. This is a prime responsibility of a government or any government that cares. And the Malaysian Government under the leadership of Dr Mahathir is one such government.

It must be realized that Malaysia is a land of many people, many languages, many cultures, and many views. And in such diversity has emerged a nation of people happy and contented. And it would be the right and the responsibility of the leader to do everything in his power to safeguard that peace and freedom and happiness. And it will be happily recalled that every action that the Malaysian Government had taken, had been taken in the interest of the Malaysian people. Obviously, some outside Malaysia need not be told and of course that is their prerogative. The Malaysian Government has very rightly decided that the country's continued political stability must be the priority. This is of primary importance for the survival of any country, not just Malaysia. And Malaysia would very greatly appreciate it if other nations, which Malaysia is quite confident have their own priorities and problems, come to terms with their own domestic affairs rather than interfering in Malaysia's.

Our country has leaders who are capable of handling our own problems—if we have any.

Mahathir Views National Unity, Economy
BK0106071088 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0551 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, June 1 (BERNAMA)—Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamed said Wednesday the government will continue to strengthen the unity among the people to make the country stronger and much more prosperous.

He said, while the solidarity of the people was once in a while tested by certain groups who were rashly emotional and harbored feelings of suspicion and envy, the government had been able to take appropriate action to contain the situation so that there was no undesirable consequence.

He said efforts towards promoting unity included the instilling in the people of a sense of loyalty towards the nation, religion, king, and leaders as well as to the laws and the norms and good practices of daily life.

The prime minister said this when making his congratulatory and loyalty speech at the investiture ceremony in conjunction with the 56th birthday of the Yang Di-Pertuan Agong (king) at the Istana Negara (the national palace) here.

Dr Mahathir said loyalty was one of the main factors which guarantees unity in this country and preserved its sovereignty.

The prime minister also said that close rapport and understanding between the king and members of the government was highly valued and had become an inspiration to the leaders.

He also pledged loyalty to the king, on behalf of the government a people.

On the national economy, Dr Mahathir said it had started to recover after experiencing a slowdown caused by the global recession.

The 4.7 percent growth in the gross national product (GNP) last year was a remarkable achievement and the government was confident that the country would achieve better economic growth in years to come, he said.

The prime minister said that one feature of economic growth in the country was the large growth originating from the private sector.

The government hoped that the private sector would play its role more actively in the development of the country's economy, he added.

At the international level, the prime minister said that Malaysia had become more active and played a more meaningful role in bodies like ASEAN (the Association of Southeast Asian Nations which groups Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines, Singapore, Brunei Darussalam, and Malaysia), Organization of Islamic Countries (OIC), Commonwealth, Nonaligned Movement, and the United Nations.

Malaysia also extended technical aid to small third world countries and took the initiative to establish the South-South Commission, he added.

He said Malaysia would host the Commonwealth heads of government meeting next year.

Police Chief on Death of 8 Attackers
*BK2805133588 Kuala Lumpur RTM Television
Network 1 in Malay 1200 GMT 28 May 88*

[Text] Inspector General of Police Tan Sri Haniff Omar today confirmed that eight members of a religious group, who attacked police in Sandakan last Monday [23 May], had been shot dead. Tan Sri Haniff corrected press reports that two members of the group, one of whom was a religious teacher, had fled to the Philippines. In fact the teacher, whose name was (Abdul Mutalib Imam Nasa-ruddin), and who was dressed in a red robe, was also shot dead when he and his followers attacked the police in Sandakan.

Police found a picture of the religious teacher on the body of one of his followers, not on the teacher's body. The motive for the attack is still under investigation.

Unionists Allowed To Visit Socialist States
*BK2805153388 Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service
in Malay 1430 GMT 28 May 88*

[Text] The cabinet has lifted a ban on trade union leaders visiting socialist countries. Labor Minister Lee Kim Sai said that members of Malaysian Trade Union Congress [MTUC] and CUEPACS [Congress of Union Employees in Public and Civil Services] are now free to visit these countries.

Speaking to newsmen before opening a CUEPACS sports event at a stadium in Kuala Lumpur today, the minister said the cabinet had made the decision at a recent cabinet meeting. Earlier, only MTUC representatives were allowed to attend meetings in socialist countries. He added that trade union leaders are also allowed to host visits of their counterparts from socialist countries.

Speaking on unemployment, the minister said that 10 percent of the country's work force or about 290,000 workers, are currently unemployed. The situation can be rectified by promoting more investments. The minister urged trade unionists not to make excessive demands, which will only obstruct foreign investment. He stressed that an amendment to the existing labor laws is aimed at boosting the country's economy and improving workers' welfare.

Cambodia

Khmer Rouge Ready To Attend 'Unofficial' Talks
*OW2705145788 Tokyo KYODO in English 1300 GMT
27 May 88*

[Text] Bangkok, May 27 KYODO—The Khmer Rouge (the so-called Pol Pot group), one of the three members of the Kampuchean resistance coalition, has said it would participate in Indonesian-proposed unofficial talks for the settlement of the Kampuchean conflict if Vietnam also took part.

This was disclosed here by Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila Friday.

It was the first indication of readiness by the Khmer Rouge to join peace talks, though accompanied by a condition.

The news came a day after Vietnamese Vice Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co hinted in Hanoi that Vietnam is ready to take part in the Indonesian-proposed talks.

The minister said Vietnam will decide whether to join the "cocktail party" talks after the foreign ministers of Vietnam and Indonesia meet in the near future.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas will meet his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Co Thach in New York next week.

The proposed unofficial talks in Indonesia in late July are reportedly a modified version of the so-called "cocktail party" discussions advocated earlier by Indonesia in an effort to try to find a way to settle the Kampuchean issue.

The latest version calls for an unofficial meeting among the three Kampuchean resistance groups and the Vietnamese-backed Heng Samrin government in Phnom Penh, which would be joined by Vietnam and the ASEAN group.

In the past, Vietnam has said that the Kampuchean should first discuss among themselves, with Vietnam perhaps joining in at a second stage. The five-member ASEAN group has maintained that Vietnam should first talk with the three resistance groups.

The resistance coalition consists of the Khmer Rouge, a group led by former head of state Prince Norodom Sihanouk and the anticommunist Khmer People's National Liberation Front under Son Sann.

Observers are paying attention to this latest move toward peace in Kampuchea where the armed conflict between the resistance coalition and the Heng Samrin government forces and Vietnamese troops is now entering its 10th year.

Prince Sihanouk, president of the three-party resistance coalition, Democratic Kampuchea, conducted two rounds of talks with Hun Sen, premier of the Hanoi-backed Phnom Penh government, on the outskirts of Paris last December and in January, in their first direct dialogue.

But Sihanouk suspended scheduled third-round talks, saying that Premier Hun Sen was totally under the control of the Vietnamese and that further dialogue would be meaningless.

Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said he favors Indonesia as the representative of the ASEAN group to the proposed unofficial talks on Kampuchea. Indonesia has been serving as a contact between the ASEAN group and Vietnam.

However, whether Hanoi will agree to the idea is still unknown.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) groups Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei.

Ministry Official on Jakarta 'Cocktail Party'
BK0105101888 Hong Kong AFP in English 0957 GMT 1 Jun 88

[Text] Hanoi, June 1 (AFP)—The Phnom Penh regime has yet to receive an invitation to attend an informal meeting on the Cambodian conflict in Jakarta next month, a Cambodian Foreign Ministry official said Wednesday.

The Hanoi-backed Phnom Penh regime has yet to receive an invitation to the so-called "cocktail party" meeting to take place in the Indonesian capital next month, the official told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE by telephone from Phnom Penh.

"We will give our response when we receive a formal invitation," he said.

Analysts here said they believe the government of Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen, which has always said that it is ready to negotiate with the Cambodian resistance, will agree to go to Jakarta.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said May 24 that the invitation had been sent "through a special channel," without giving further details.

Indonesia and other Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) members Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei and the Philippines do not recognize the Phnom Penh regime, which is also not recognized by the United Nations.

Leaders of two of the three factions that make up the resistance Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK), the U.N.-recognized Cambodian Government, have indicated that they will attend the meeting.

Mr. Alatas has indicated that CGDK leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Vietnam will attend the talks. CGDK member former Cambodian Premier Son Sann has said he will attend if Hanoi sends a representative.

The third member of the CGDK, the Khmer Rouge, the military backbone of the estimated 50,000 guerrillas fighting the Phnom Penh government, have still not responded to the invitation.

Vietnam would not want to meet with the Cambodian factions alone and would like a representative of at least one ASEAN country, perhaps Indonesia, to be present, Vietnamese Deputy Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co said last week.

Vietnam has until now refused direct talks with Prince Sihanouk as long as he has not reached a settlement with Mr. Hun Sen.

Indonesia is ASEAN's main negotiator with Hanoi on the Cambodian conflict.

Vietnam and other countries, including Indonesia, would join in immediately after an official phase of talks between the four warring factions had started, according to Mr. Alatas.

Vietnam has said it will withdraw 50,000 troops from Cambodia by the end of the year. Hanoi says it has 90,000 troops in the country but Western experts put the figure at 120,000.

Concrete details of the "cocktail party" will be discussed in New York in the next few days between Mr. Alatas and his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Co Thach, who are participating in a U.N. conference on disarmament, Mr. Co said.

Thai Paper Carries Hun Sen Interview
BK2905010588 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 May 88 p 7

[Two-hour-long interview of Hun Sen, prime minister and foreign minister, with Jacques Bekaert in Phnom Penh "shortly before" the SRV announcement of plans to withdraw 50,000 troops from Cambodia before the end of 1988; passages in boldface as published]

[Text] Although a list of questions was submitted in advance, Hun Sen agreed to discuss a wide range of subjects. A key member of the politburo of the ruling People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea (PRPK) [KPRP], he is one of the youngest government leaders in the world.

Speaking through an interpreter, Hun Sen gave the impression of a man of conviction. Often he spoke with passion. Of all the PRK leaders, he is probably the best known. He has travelled widely, including in the West. He met Prince Norodom Sihanouk twice, in December 1987 and in January this year in France.

Are you still hoping for peace in Kampuchea?

Yes, of course. People all over the world are hoping for peace. We cannot disappoint such aspirations. In nine years we have been able to accomplish a lot. You must remember where we came from, what was the country like in 1979.... Maybe our single greatest accomplishment has been to bring the population back to normal life. The country is moving ahead again. We have put an end to famine. We had to do everything from scratch.

But great problems remain. We are facing a rapid demographic growth and we have the urgency to produce more. Our capacity for production is inferior to the needs of the people. We must also improve the quality of what we produce. So, yes, peace is crucial. But I am aware that the road to peace is a long one, that the process is complex because the conflict involves many countries. As for the meetings between Samdech Sihanouk and myself, we have made progress, we have narrowed some of our differences but further negotiations are still necessary...

You said that you remain optimistic.

Yes, because the atmosphere of the first two rounds of negotiations was very good. The principles regarding the negotiations are being established by the two parties. But certain concrete details remain to be fixed.

Are you reluctant toward the idea of an International Peace Keeping Force (IPKF)?

I did not discuss this question in detail with Samdech Sihanouk but I do not really believe it is necessary to bring in such a force in order to solve the Kampuchean question.

Our main problem is the reunification of the country... If the Khmer factions do not agree, then even an IPKF cannot solve the problem. We may have to face a situation similar to the one in Lebanon. An IPKF could not prevent this tragedy.

I wonder if it is a good idea to replace one foreign force—the Vietnamese Army—by another foreign force. If we have four armies forming the IPKF, Kampuchea will become also the problem of these four countries. I do not believe that the Vietnamese withdrawal should be followed by the arrival of foreign troops.

Would the PRK like to eliminate the Khmer Rouge?

At least as a military force. We accept them as a political force. Of course one can believe that the Khmer Rouge will refuse to participate in any settlement. On the other hand, everybody dislikes the Khmer Rouge, not only us, but the West and the ASEAN countries. It is too bad these countries have helped maintain the Khmer Rouge in power. We are really the only ones, with the assistance of the Vietnamese, to fight against the Khmer Rouge.

Without external assistance there is very little the Khmer Rouge could do. What we ask people and countries to do is to stop supporting the Khmer Rouge. There are many ways to eliminate their military strength, politically, diplomatically, militarily. Samdech Sihanouk can be of great help here... The Khmer Rouge are clever, of course. They use the name of Samdech Sihanouk in order to get the support of the population, but at the same time they kill Sihanoukist soldiers of the ANS. Even Samdech Sihanouk himself, in his book "Prisoner of the Khmer Rouge" complains that China does not want the ANS—the Sihanoukist National Army—to be stronger than the Khmer Rouge.

Do you think the Khmer Rouge are unlikely to join the negotiations between you and Samdech Sihanouk?

I see two ways to solve the Kampuchean problem. We could have a global solution or a partial solution. A global solution would mean that the Khmer Rouge accept a political participation in the peace process. If they refuse, as many people seem to believe they will, why not have a partial solution?

We could have first a partial solution, then move to a global one.

Who are the "unacceptable" Khmer Rouge? Give us some names.

Pol Pot, of course. And his close associates. In exchange for participation of the Khmer Rouge in the political life of Kampuchea we ask the departure of Pol Pot and his close friends, and the military elimination of the parties of Democratic Kampuchea. Some of the leaders—Pol Pot, Ieng Sary—have already been condemned "in absentia" in 1979 by an international tribunal in Phnom Penh. As for the others, well, it will depend on the people, on the tribunals. We have not given away those names yet. But the people know them. You know them; well....

If there is no political solution soon, then what?

Then fighting will go on, at least in remote regions. And if we have four forces, as Samdech Sihanouk has proposed, then the fighting could take place in Phnom Penh, just like in Beirut.

Must the future Kampuchea be socialist?

Of course a political solution would bring changes in the present situation of the country. We have already made some concessions. Others would be possible in the future. We have mentioned a few principles: neutrality, independence, non-alignment. These are concepts acceptable to all. But we have not talked about socialism. We are ready to accept the political participation of the other political parties, which means that no, the PRPK won't have the monopoly of power. But concessions must come from each side. So far the other side has not

conceded much. You must understand what our position was during the second round of talks with Samdech Sihanouk. We are paying a high price, the other side gives away nothing. We respect the interest of the other parties, they should respect ours. We are being asked for a full dismantling of our regime. But look at the starting point. We control the country but the other side wants full political and military power.... I believe a solution is possible, but some concessions are necessary....

Do you hope to resume talks with Prince Sihanouk?

Yes. I am ready to meet the Prince anywhere, anytime. Recently I received from Samdech a message suggesting that a meeting could take place in 1989, or even 1990. But what will there be to discuss in 1990? It is the date set by Vietnam to withdraw its army. So the problem created by the presence of Vietnamese troops will be gone. What will then be the pretext used by the other side to keep fighting? The only serious problems will be represented by Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge, or by the role of Thailand against us.... Then the true obstacle will be China because China holds the key to Pol Pot's survival.

What does China want?

China wanted to bleed Vietnam white. And she used Kampuchea for this goal. This tactic attracted the United States, the ASEAN countries, the West.... But before 1979 relations between China and ASEAN were not good, now they are much better. Today China still uses Pol Pot. But it is in China's interest to have good relations with Kampuchea. Relations between the USSR and China are improving, even if the Kampuchean problem does exist. So maybe the Kampuchean question is not that central for China...

How active and efficient are the Khmer Rouge?

We admit their military strength, but they are not very efficient as a political force, because of their past. They remain largely unacceptable to the population. They are strong if you compare them to the soldiers of Son Sann or the Sihanoukists. But they are unable to establish military control over the country.

A guerrilla force can never solve military problems. The Khmer Rouge are moving in small groups, they avoid large confrontation. Most of their targets are of civilian nature. Their actions anger the people. I do not deny that their activities do not hurt, especially the civilian population. But they are unable to occupy territory, they do not occupy a zone, not even a village.

They move into Kampuchea from the border in small groups, they are all the time on the move. In 1970-75 we occupied large "liberated zones," now I suspect that the Khmer Rouge's "liberated zones" are in Thailand, not in Kampuchea.

What do you make of frequent reports of cooperation between the Sihanoukists and soldiers of the PRK?

Indeed the Sihanoukists can cooperate better with the PRK than with the Khmer Rouge [KR]. The majority of the Sihanoukists are victims of the KR, just like we are. So, from a political point of view, the Sihanoukists should not be considered as the enemy. We are all victims. In fact it is too bad there is no more cooperation between the Sihanoukists and us.

I would not talk of cooperation between the Sihanoukists and us, not yet. But it is true that a growing number of Sihanoukists have been in touch with us and fight against the Khmer Rouge. At this point, I would say that contacts between the Sihanoukists and the Armed Forces of the PRK are neither good nor bad. But it could facilitate future cooperation, in case we have a political solution in Kampuchea.

In the seventies, you were yourself a member of the Khmer Rouge. When did you start to have doubts?

Even before the fall of Lon Nol I had the impression that something was going wrong. But it was very difficult to do anything about it. I was not sure then if we were dealing with a few isolated mistakes, for which minor cadres were responsible or if it went deeper and higher in the hierarchy. Not everything was bad, but indeed there were strong signs that the revolution was going against the interest of the people.

Since we were in the middle of a war, the choice was restricted: either keep on fighting against Lon Nol or abandon the struggle. I chose to keep on fighting rather than to become a satellite of the imperialism.

After the 17th of April 1975 it became clear that mistakes came not just from middle-rank cadres but from the top, the centre.

But you chose to stay.

On the 16th of April I was severely wounded in Kompong Cham. I lost an eye. For a while I was partly paralysed and spent many months in hospital. I was not the only one to be dissatisfied but we had no organisation, no capacity to fight a war against Pol Pot.

Repression was hard. It was almost impossible to get organised. But more and more individuals and groups felt they had to oppose Pol Pot. So on the 20th of June 1977 I took my regiment underground. We operated from Kompong Cham, Kratie, Monduliri.... Survival was difficult, but almost a year later things started to improve with the rebellion of the Eastern Zone. Others joined the underground, people like So Phim, Chea Sim, Heng Samrin....

The Khmer Rouge claimed recently that there had been at least six coup attempts against Pol Pot.

I don't know about real coups.... rather purges, widespread accusations which became a pretext to massacres. Certainly some people wanted to revolt but it was extremely difficult. People were accused of being CIA, KGB and Vietnamese agents.... Even children. This is documented in the Tuol Sleng archives. (Tuol Sleng is a former school transformed into a prison where more than 18,000 people died during the Khmer Rouge time). People like Hu Nim, Hu Youn, Vorn Veth were killed because they opposed Pol Pot, not because they were CIA or KGB agents....

Hun Sen Receives New Soviet Ambassador
BK2705120388 Phnom Penh SPK in English
1111 GMT 27 May 88

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 27—Hun Sen, Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, received in Phnom Penh this morning the new Soviet ambassador to Kampuchea, K.R. Luftulovich.

Speaking to his guest, Hun Sen expressed his firm conviction that, with the contributions to be made by the new Soviet ambassador to Kampuchean, the all-around cooperation between the two countries will be further consolidated and developed. He said restructuring has been carried out not only in the USSR, but also in many other countries, including the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

He wished the Soviet ambassador the best of health and success in his noble tasks. Hun Sen asked the Soviet diplomat to convey his best regards to the Soviet party and state leaders.

In his reply, the Soviet ambassador expressed his joy at his assignment in Kampuchea.

He pledged to do his best to further consolidate and develop the friendship and cooperation between the two countries in the interests of peace, stability and security in the region and the world as a whole.

With regard to the freshly-announced decision on annual withdrawal of Vietnamese army volunteers from Kampuchea, he expressed the Soviet Union's full support for this effort which, he said, has testified to the increasing strength of the Kampuchean revolution.

Chea Sim Meets Ambassador
BK2805132988 Phnom Penh SPK in English
1112 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 28 —Chea Sim, Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee, chairman of both the National Assembly and the National Council of the United Front

for Construction and Defence of the Kampuchean Fatherland, received in Phnom Penh yesterday K.R. Luftulovich, new Soviet ambassador to Kampuchea.

Chairman Chea Sim acclaimed K.R. Luftulovich's new mission in Kampuchea as an important contribution to the consolidation and development of the solidarity, friendship, and all-around cooperation between Kampuchea and the Soviet Union. He informed his guest of the all-sided achievements recorded by the Kampuchean people over the past nine years which he said, result partly from the moral support and material assistance of fraternal socialist countries, particularly Vietnam, Laos and the Soviet Union, and friendly countries and international organizations.

The Kampuchean leader voiced full support for the upcoming Soviet-American summit which, he said, will also deal with the Southeast Asian situation, including the search for a political solution to the Kampuchean issue.

Chea Sim thanked the party, government and people of the Soviet Union for their support to the PRK's policy of national reconciliation, its proposals for a political solution to the Kampuchean issue, and the Hun Sen-Sihanouk meetings.

In reply, K.R. Luftulovich briefed Chea Sim on the Soviet people's active contributions to the process of perestroika in the Soviet Union.

The Soviet diplomat extolled the all-around achievements scored by the Kampuchean people during the past years. He renewed the Soviet Union's full support for the Kampuchean people's just struggle and the PRK's effort to find a political solution to Kampuchean issue. He pledged to do his utmost to further consolidate and strengthen the solidarity, friendship and multiform cooperation between the parties, governments and peoples of the two countries.

Troop Withdrawal Deemed 'Absurd Lie'
BK2805032088 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 27 May 88

[Station commentary: "The Hanoi Authorities' Announcement on Withdrawal of 50,000 Troops From Cambodia Is Just an Absurd Lie"]

[Text] During the past few days, as the world intensely demanded that Vietnam quickly withdraw its aggressor troops from Cambodia, the Hanoi authorities loudly made another deceitful announcement about the withdrawal of their aggressor troops from Cambodia. They announced that this year Vietnam would withdraw 50,000 troops from Cambodia and that in 1990 all Vietnamese troops would be withdrawn.

This is an absurd lie. A little earlier, the Hanoi authorities stressed that Vietnam would withdraw its troops from Cambodia only after the Vietnamese-installed regime in Phnom Penh could survive by itself. Does the situation on the Cambodian battlefield favor the survival of the Vietnamese aggressors' regime in Cambodia?

The Vietnamese aggressors on the Cambodian battlefield have suffered more seriously than ever before during this 10th year. The National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] and the Cambodian people throughout the country, including the fraternal Cambodian soldiers and administrators who were forced to serve the Vietnamese enemy, have jointly attacked the Vietnamese aggressors more vigorously everywhere throughout the country, from the western border of Cambodia to the eastern border adjacent to Vietnam. The Vietnamese aggressors have become increasingly tottering and have lost the initiative. They could not seal off the border nor withstand the NADK's offensive against villages. After sealing off one area, another would be left open. They are unable to seal off any area. Both the border and the interior of Cambodia are now left open.

The NADK has been launching offensives against the Vietnamese aggressors—in particular, actions in which we attack two or three villages simultaneously—even more vigorously and effectively.

During this 10th dry season, our NADK put out of action 11,200 soldiers of the Vietnamese enemy and liberated, dispersed, or dismantled Vietnamese administrative networks in 4,033 villages and 236 communes. Our NADK also freed 6,197 Cambodian soldiers and village and commune administrators who had been forced to serve the Vietnamese enemy, thus dispersing and seriously tottering the puppet administration built up in Cambodia by the Vietnamese enemy. At the same time, more fraternal Cambodian soldiers who were forced to serve the Vietnamese enemy, particularly those posted along the Cambodian-Thai border, have fled to join our NADK. They have fled in groups, ranging from platoon and company units to battalion units. Sometimes, the whole units with fully armed commanders and their subordinates fled. Upon arrival, they immediately joined with the NADK in counterattacking the Vietnamese aggressors with great rancor for them, thus causing the Cambodian people's struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors to become even more vigorous and zealous. The Vietnamese aggressors have not been able withstand this impetus of the Cambodian people's struggle. They are falling into a state of total and complete defeat.

This is the reality on the battlefield. This situation does not allow an opportunity for the Vietnamese puppet regime in Cambodia to survive, thus permitting Vietnam to withdraw its troops from Cambodia as it has claimed. As a matter of fact, Vietnam has continued sending more troops to Cambodia to prop up and prevent its war of

aggression in Cambodia from falling too soon, thus enabling it to carry on its maneuvers and make a deal on the Cambodian problem for another period of time.

Thus, Vietnam's above-mentioned announcement on a troop withdrawal is as totally deceitful as all other announcements. Vietnam has made this announcement in an attempt to relax world pressure and gain aid for solving its current difficulties and carrying on its adventurous war of aggression in Cambodia.

But the Vietnamese aggressors cannot conceal the presence of more than one million Vietnamese troops, administrators, and nationals in Cambodia. The world will continue to pressure Vietnam until it totally withdraws its troops in accordance with the UN resolutions, thus allowing the Cambodian people to decide their own destiny without any outside interference.

Commentary Welcomes SRV Troop Withdrawal
BK3005105988 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 30 May 88

[Political commentary: "On the Announcement of the Withdrawal of 50,000 Vietnamese Troops from Cambodia"]

[Text] Last week Vietnam announced that it would withdraw 50,000 troops from Cambodia, including all of the Vietnamese Army commanders, before the end of 1988 and will place the remaining 50,000 Vietnamese troops under the command of Heng Samrin until 1990 when they will be completely withdrawn from Cambodia.

This Vietnamese troop withdrawal announcement has generated many reactions from various circles, for—should it be true—it is a very remarkable event.

In Hungary where Thai Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon was paying a visit, a high-ranking Thai Foreign Ministry official said that this was the result of the recent visit to the Soviet Union by the Thai prime minister, and that the Thai delegation knew about it even before Vietnam made it official, alluding that this important issue was discussed by the Thai and Soviet leaders in the Soviet Union. It is noted that Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach arrived in the Soviet Union after the Thai prime minister had visited.

The Soviet Union stated that the announced withdrawal of 50,000 Vietnamese troops from Cambodia was a step toward rapidly finding a solution to the Cambodian problem.

His excellency Son Sann, president of the KPNLF, said that the desire of the Cambodian people was to see all, and not part, of the Vietnamese troops pulled out of Cambodia.

The Office of the Personal Representative of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk for Cambodia and Asia said it welcomed this announcement, but the ANS [Sihanoukist National Army] would continue to fight until all Vietnamese troops are completely pulled out of Cambodia.

A number of other countries have cautiously reacted to this Vietnamese announcement. And how does the Voice of the Khmer react to this Cambodian problem?

Unquestionably, the Voice of the Khmer wants anything that is beneficial to the Cambodian people. We welcome the announcement of the withdrawal from Cambodia of even a single Vietnamese soldier, let alone one involving as many as 50,000, provided this withdrawal is genuine and not a farce as those in the past. However, let alone leaving 50,000 Vietnamese troops in Cambodia as claimed, to leave behind in Cambodia even a single Vietnamese soldier would invite the Voice of the Khmer to condemn the Hanoi government, whether the remaining Vietnamese troops are placed under the command of the Hanoi authorities themselves or, through a new farce, placed under the command of their puppets.

Regarding this announcement that 50,000 more Vietnamese troops would be withdrawn, the Voice of the Khmer thinks that the Cambodian people still do not believe it entirely. Final victory is won by anyone who is always on his guard. We have always known that Vietnam usually resorts to tricks and deception. Vietnam prefers the trick of handing out the bait while making propaganda and immediately drawing benefit from this deception. Not long ago Vietnam announced that it wanted peace and negotiations. It said that peace was at hand, and it made misleading propaganda in an attempt to lure the resistance forces into laying down their weapons and surrendering to them. However, such a Vietnamese trick is well known to Cambodians. As a result, it is the fraternal Khmer soldiers under the Heng Samrin regime who have deserted the Vietnamese and have joined the struggle to launch a final counteroffensive against the latter, weakening them and forcing them to agree to sit at the negotiating table with the Cambodian resistance movement.

Now, Vietnam has softened its attitude a little by announcing that it agrees to attend the Jakarta meeting next July to discuss the Cambodian problem at a time when Vietnam is facing a serious famine at home.

The Voice of the Khmer is waiting to see how sincere Vietnam will be. We, however, clearly understand that whatever may happen the Cambodian people will never forget the snare set by Vietnam. This means that we will continue to strengthen our fighting position until Cambodia wins back its true independence.

Indonesia

Alatas Hails Vietnamese Troop Withdrawal
*BK2805091488 Jakarta International Service in English
0800 GMT 28 May 88*

[Text] Indonesia warmly hails the plan of the withdrawal of 50,000 Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea by the

end of the year. Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said in Jakarta yesterday that the pullout of foreign troops from Kampuchea is an important factor for the creation of peace in the region. Speaking at his weekly press briefing at the Foreign Office, Mr Alatas also said that both Indonesia and ASEAN have a positive view on the withdrawal of foreign troops from the war-torn country.

Concerning the plan for an official meeting—popularly known as a cocktail party—between the conflicting parties in the Kampuchean issue scheduled to be held in Jakarta in July this year, Mr Alatas hopes that all sides will be able to attend the two-phase meeting.

The first phase is to be attended by representatives of the three political forces of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea and representatives of the Phnom Penh regime.

In the second phase, representatives of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, ASEAN, will join the four political forces.

Minister Alatas also said that the Soviet Union's support is badly needed in an effort to facilitate the ASEAN sponsored meeting in Jakarta.

Sihanouk Said Willing To Attend Jakarta Meeting
*BK2805141288 Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN
in Indonesian 24 May 88 p 1*

[Text] Jakarta, 24 May—Prince Norodom Sihanouk says that he will attend the informal "Jakarta meeting", aimed at seeking a solution to the Cambodian conflict. The meeting is scheduled to be held in Jakarta in July.

This was disclosed to reporters by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas at the Department of Foreign Affairs on Tuesday [24 May] after he signed an Indonesian-Spanish cooperation agreement on tourism.

Replying to a reporter's question, Alatas said that "Sihanouk has given his positive response to the meeting", adding that Indonesia is now contacting those who are expected to attend the meeting. However, only Prince Sihanouk and Vietnam have given their response.

"I am still waiting for a reply from other factions in the CGDK", Alatas said. He noted that contacts with the Heng Samrin-led Phnom Penh regime are done indirectly through other channels.

Alatas said who will represent ASEAN at the coming "Jakarta Meeting" is not yet decided, saying "It is up to them who should attend the meeting."

PLO Political Department Chief Continues Visit

Meets With Suharto

*BK2805081888 Jakarta Domestic Service
in Indonesian 0700 GMT 28 May 88*

[Text] President Suharto has reaffirmed Indonesia's strong support for the Palestinian people's struggle to determine their future by establishing an independent and sovereign nation in their homeland. Faruq Qaddumi, PLO's Political Department chief who was accompanied by Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, said this after he was received by President Suharto at Bina Graha Palace, Jakarta, this morning.

Through newsmen, Faruq Qaddumi expressed his deep appreciation and thanks to the Indonesian Government on the warm welcome shown to the PLO delegation since its arrival in Indonesia on Thursday, and especially on Indonesia's strong support for the Palestinian people's struggle.

He also conveyed PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat's special message to President Suharto which, among other things, is a congratulatory message in conjunction with President Suharto's reelection as president for the 1988-93 term of office. Replying to newsmen concerning the possibility of establishing a PLO special representative office in Jakarta, Qaddumi stressed that the issue depends on the timing since the Indonesian Government has said that this will not pose any problem in principle.

Concerning the superpower summit in Moscow that will begin tomorrow, Qaddumi expressed the hope that the Middle East issue, especially the Palestinian people's struggle, will be discussed in depth. Regarding this, he expressed his fervent hope that a new attitude will be shown by the two superpowers concerning the Palestinian people's struggle that has been continuing for the last 40 years in an effort to retrieve their rights.

Taking the opportunity, Qaddumi also said that an in-depth discussion concerning various problems in the Middle East was held in Jakarta yesterday with Foreign Minister Alatas and other high-ranking Indonesian officials.

Paper Comments

*BK3005090888 Jakarta Domestic Service
in Indonesian 0600 GMT 30 May 88*

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the visit to Indonesia by PLO Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi, PELITA believes that the visit has made the Indonesian people know better about the activities of PLO. The visit has also evoked greater sympathy and stronger support for the Palestinian people's struggle. This also confirms Indonesia's support for the Palestinian people's struggle.

PELITA says even though it has not fully learned about the outcome of talks between Faruq Qaddumi and Indonesian leaders, the visit signifies that an important breakthrough has been achieved by the two sides. The daily says the Indonesian Government has always extended its support for PLO's struggle and the time has come for PLO to be allowed to open its representative office in Indonesia.

Laos

Aide-Memoire Rejects U.S. Narcotics Charges

*BK3105132388 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1200 GMT 31 May 88*

[Text] Sombat Chounlamani, head of Department 2 of the Foreign Ministry this afternoon [31 May] summoned the U.S. charge d'affaires to Laos and handed over to him an aide-memoire. The aide-memoire says:

1. According to an AP report from Washington, the U.S. State Department spokesperson, Mrs Phyllis Oakley, revealed on 11 May the report submitted to the U.S. Congress on Monday 1 March 1988 by the State Department that says that the opium cultivation and heroin production have considerably increased during the past 2 years and that the trend is likely to be irreversible. Mrs Oakley also said that many sources had reported that the Lao Government and military authorities have been involved in the narcotics trade network.

The LPDR Foreign Ministry was extremely surprised to learn this as relations between Laos and the United States have been further improved another step, that is, the Lao side has done its utmost in searching for the missing Americans while the United States has also provided humanitarian assistance for the people in the areas affected by the natural disasters. The U.S. State Department spokesperson made such unfounded remarks touching on the LPDR's honor, dignity, and prestige, adversely affecting relations between the two countries. The LPDR Foreign Ministry categorically rejects such accusations made by the U.S. State Department spokesperson.

2. Since the day the LPDR was established, the Lao Government has persistently mobilized our multiethnic people to exert efforts to heal the wounds of war and reconstruct the nation while having to encounter most difficult and complicated tasks and adverse consequences left behind by the war of the old regime that includes opium, marijuana, and heroin addiction.

The Lao Government has been trying to eliminate opium cultivation, provide medical treatment for drug addicts, and reduce their number and come close to achieving an addiction-free society. The government has prohibited the purchase, sale, and distribution of all forms of narcotics. This is the right and fair policy of the Lao Government.

Kaysone Phomvihan Receives Frenchman
BK3105101988 Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT
31 May 88

[Text] Vientiane, May 31 (OANA-KPL)—Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Council of Ministers received here on May 30 a delegation of French businessmen led by Mr. Michel Douming, chairman of the Directorate Board of the Interagra Company.

The talk proceeded in a good atmosphere during which economic questions aimed at developing trade relations and cooperation were raised. Issues relating to agricultural production, transport were among matters raised.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers wished the French business delegation success.

The French delegation was accompanied by Phao Bounaphon, chairman of the State Committee for Economy and Trade Relations With Foreign Countries.

Kaysone Phomvihan Meets Newly Appointed Envoys
BK2705104888 Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT
27 May 88

[Text] Vientiane, May 27 (KPL)—Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP CC, chairman of the Council of Ministers, on May 26 met with the newly nominated Lao ambassadors: Khamphong Phanvongsa, Nousai Sitthisai, and Phongsavat Boupha. They are respectively ambassadors to the Soviet Union, the Polish People's Republic, and the People's Republic of China.

Khamphong Phanvongsa, member of the LPRP CC, is also appointed as ambassador to the Republic of Afghanistan and the Romanian Socialist Republic, however the chancellery is in Moscow.

During the discussion, the Council of Ministers' chairman spoke about the foreign policy of the Lao party and government in the new period to establish diplomatic ties with all countries disregarding socio-political differences, on the basis of respect of each other's independence, sovereignty, and on equality and mutual interest.

Meeting With KPRP Foreign Relations Committee
BK2905122988 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1200 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] A meeting on work in the foreign relations of Laos and Cambodia was held in Vientiane today during a friendship visit to Laos by the delegation of the KPRP Central Committee Foreign Relations Committee.

The Lao side was led by Comrade Khamphail Boupha, member of the party Central Committee and deputy head of the Foreign Relations Committee of the LPRP

Central Committee, and the Cambodian side by Comrade Yos Son, member of the KPRP Central Committee and head of the KPRP Central Committee Foreign Relations Committee.

At the meeting, the two sides exchanged views on the world and regional situation, especially the fierce competition in the economic, technical, and scientific fields, which has developed vigorously, thus strongly affecting the political, economic, and social development of mankind, becoming a significant factor profoundly governing the evolution of the world, and making all countries to take it into consideration in charting a policy for their own development.

The two sides also informed each other of the internal situation in their respective countries as well as the relations between the two committees in the past and at present with a view to learning lessons from each other and to strengthening their relationship and cooperation in the immediate future.

Comrade Nguon Phansiphon, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the PRK to Laos, also attended the meeting.

Saman Vi-gnaket Receives PRK Party Delegation
BK2705102888 Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT
27 May 88

[Text] Vientiane, May 27 (KPL)—Saman Vi-gnaket, Politburo member of the LPRP CC, in charge of educational activities, received here yesterday a delegation of the Organizational Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, led by its deputy-head Neou Samom.

The talk proceeded in an atmosphere of close friendship during which both sides emphasized on the strengthening of the special solidarity, and mutual exchange of experience, thus aimed at improving the effectiveness of the two parties' activities.

The delegation arrived here on May 19 and will here today.

Nguon Phansiphon, ambassador of the People's Republic of Kampuchea to Laos was also present at the meeting.

Briefs

International Rice Aid

Vientiane, May 27 (OANA-KPL)—Jane Blaxland, director of PAM [World Food Program] operations to Thailand and Laos, and Mr Andre Girod, in charge of PAM emergency aid to Laos on May 16 met with Lao officials who are to supervise the distribution of 4,800 tons of rice aid from Sweden to northern Lao provinces affected by drought last year. The afflicted provinces were Luang

Prabang, Sayaboury and Xiengkhouang. The Swedish Government has decided to give Xiengkhouang Province 1,000 tons of rice. So far 655 tons have already arrived in Xiengkhouang and the rest will be arriving soon. In addition Sweden decided to provide 1,800 tons to Luang Prabang and 2,000 tons to Sayaboury Province. Laos expected to receive this year 36,110 tons of rice aid from international organizations. So far, 70 per cent of the aid have arrived in the country. [Text] [BK2705124588 Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT 27 May 88 BK]

Philippines

Manglapus Criticizes Defense Pact With U.S.
HK0106051588 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 1 Jun 88 pp 1, 8

[By staff member Marites Sison]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus yesterday severely criticized the Philippine-U.S. Mutual Defense Treaty (MDT) because it does not automatically guarantee that the United States will come to the Philippine rescue if attacked.

He bewailed that the treaty does not contain the "retaliatory" clause provided in the U.S. agreement with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

Manglapus urged that the MDT be made "more realistic" by embodying provisions that both countries "should come to the aid of each other's democracies and territories.

Manglapus spoke at the 30th anniversary, meeting of the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Mutual Defense Board (MDB) at the Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel.

A message by U.S. State Secretary George Shultz also read at the meeting warned that "unless the Philippines is willing to accept its share of the common (security) effort, confidence within the alliance will erode and questions about its long term future will arise."

Shultz's message was read by U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines Nicholas Platt.

Shultz did not elaborate in his message but a U.S. embassy official earlier said a Philippine decision to oust the American bases here after 1991 could rupture relations and could mean withdrawal of U.S. economic and military assistance to the country.

Shultz stressed the importance of maintaining the "mutual defense relationship" between the two countries, adding it "continues to be essential to meet the bilateral, regional and global security challenges of the present day."

He added. "The ability to deal with challenges facing the free world will depend on the consistency of security cooperation among key partners like the U.S. and the Philippines."

Shultz was obviously reiterating the standard U.S. position that the American bases here must stay beyond 1991 for "bilateral" as well as "regional security" reasons.

The Military Bases Agreement (MBA), which provides for 16 U.S. military facilities here and which expires in 1991, is currently under review.

The speeches of Manglapus and Shultz reflected sharp differences on the security role that the U.S. is providing in the Philippines.

Manglapus again refuted the U.S. position, reiterated by Shultz that the bases here have been an effective deterrent to any external threat to the country.

Unlike the NATO agreement, Manglapus said Articles 3, 4 and 5 of the MDT does not automatically guarantee that the U.S. will come to the Philippine rescue if attacked.

The three articles, merely provide among other things, that "the parties, through their foreign ministers or their deputies, will consult together from time to time regarding the implementation of this treaty and whenever in the opinion of either of them the territorial integrity, political independence or security of either of the Parties is threatened by external armed attack in the Pacific."

Shultz, for his part, maintained that the U.S. has "voluntarily assumed the rare responsibility for protection against external threats to the Philippines in order to allow the Armed Forces of the Philippines to divert its efforts, manpower and resources to deal with the threatening internal insurgency."

Manglapus also sought to redefine the interpretation of the MDT by equating mutual political support for democracy with mutual defense.

Yesterday's closed-door mutual defense board meeting was attended by AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Chief of Staff Gen. Renato de Villa, Admiral Ronald Hays, commander of the U.S. Pacific Command (CinCPac), Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos and the Philippine and American base commanders at Subic and Clark.

Editorial on U.S. Intention To Keep Bases
HK2705075988 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 27 May 88 p 4

[Editorial: "U.S. is Bent on Keeping the Bases"]

[Text] The report that the Pakistani prime minister, Mohammad Khan Junejo, who arrives today for state visit, is on a "special mission" for the United States should put on alert every Filipino who values his nation's sovereignty.

According to a foreign office source, Mr Junejo will try to persuade the Philippine Government to keep the U.S. military facilities beyond 1991. In return, Pakistan will withdraw the overt support it has been giving the Muslim rebel groups of Mindanao, specifically the Moro National Liberation Front and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

If this is true, Mr Junejo would not be the first such emissary of the United States in its bid to keep its bases on Philippine soil. Nor will he be the last. America, which co-existed comfortably with Ferdinand Marcos for 20 years, has spent the past two years building up its case before a non-committal Aquino Government. With the bases agreement due to expire in 1991, the U.S. has intensified efforts to ensure retention of the bases.

The foreign office disclosure follows a report from Washington, saying that the Heritage Foundation, an American Right-wing think tank, has urged the U.S. to offer the Philippines \$2.5 billion over the next five years, a quantum lift from the \$900 million they gave Mr Marcos, on condition that the bases can stay beyond 1991.

Earlier, it was reported from Washington that the U.S. government was organizing international support for a \$10 billion multilateral aid program for the economic recovery of the Philippines. The program—popularly billed as the “mini-Marshall Plan”—has been perceived by many Filipinos as a move to try to soften the Philippines into accepting the retention of the bases beyond 1991.

Although President Aquino has said that the plan was welcome so long as it was not tied to the bases, which are now undergoing review, she admitted that she could not blame Filipinos for being skeptical because of the timing of the Washington announcement.

The strategic importance of the bases here to project U.S. power beyond the Pacific towards the Persian Gulf, a region vital to U.S. interests, and to maintain its superiority in its superpower rivalry with the Soviet Union, is well known.

Because of the strategic role of the bases, it is realistic to expect that, in the course of the review of the military bases agreement, the U.S. would use every available means to keep their facilities here for as long as these will serve their global security, political and economic interests. So far, the U.S. has apparently used friendly persuasion. But when the going gets rough, a sense of realism informs us that the U.S. is not above arm twisting the dirty tricks to gain its objectives. The secretary of foreign affairs, Raul Manglapus, and his negotiators, we believe, are not unaware of this.

Armed Forces Chief Doubts War Over Spratlys
HK0106042188 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Armed Forces chief General Renato de Villa yesterday [31 May] said he does not believe the countries disputing the Kalayaan [Freedom] Islands [two islands in the Spratlys chain] would be drawn into war. De Villa, however, admitted that the Philippines is concerned over the reported military build-up by China and Vietnam who are also claiming the islands group. Taiwan and Malaysia are the two other countries staking their claims on the potentially oil-rich islands located in the South China Sea. The Philippines claims 60 islands and islets in the group.

Malaysia ‘Criticized’ for Seizure of Fishermen
HK3005113288 Quezon City GMA 7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 1030 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] Senate President Pro Tempore Teofisto Guingona has criticized Malaysia for apprehending Filipino fishing boats, which he claimed were in Philippine territorial waters. The fishing boats were seized by the Malaysian Coast Guard last month.

[Begin Guingona recording in English] This is an unfortunate incident, but it seems a direct affront on the sovereignty and dignity of the Philippines. Why? Because the facts are undisputed: The exact place where the seizure of the vessels took place is undisputed. [end recording]

It has been learned that the vessels were intercepted some 127 nautical miles from the baseline of Malaysia and 121 nautical miles from the baseline of the Philippines.

Guingona said that while Malaysia was a signatory to the Geneva Convention on Territorial Limits, it did not adhere to the convention. He called on Malaysia to seek the peaceful resolution of territorial disputes.

[Begin Guingona recording in English] We strongly urge the Malaysian Government, therefore, Mr President, to do justice to us, to settle this case amicably. We need the officers and crewmen. We need the vessels. Repair the losses, remove the charges, keep the faith and friendship of the Filipino people. [end recording]

Aquino's Weekly Radio Program Reviewed

[Slantlines indicate passages in English]

HK3005104488 [Editorial Report] Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog at 1300 GMT on 29 May carries a 55-minute live program entitled “Magtanong sa Pangulo” (“Ask the President”). During the program President Corazon Aquino answers listeners' questions, most of which are phoned in, while others are relayed by moderator Orly Punzalan.

Aquino starts by informing the people about the visit of Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo.

"We have had diplomatic relations with Pakistan for a long time. They started in 1949. Premier Junejo's visit was a good occasion to strengthen our relations."

"/It is also good that we are honored with this visit of Prime Minister Junejo because it will give us the chance to explore possibilities, to expand trade relations and development cooperation between the two countries. I was also able to inform Prime Minister Junejo with regard to the Regional Consultative Commissions and also with regard to the Service and Action Program for the people of Mindanao. It was very good for both of us to exchange experiences with our respective democracies, and he was also telling me about their problems with regard to unemployment, and I told him what we are doing in order to alleviate poverty. More or less we have similar concerns in that he is also doing his best to alleviate poverty in his country./"

"During visits by heads of government, like the state visit of Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo, both of us, as well as cabinet members and the private sector, are given the opportunity to improve relations, especially in trade. The Pakistani prime minister told me that both of our governments will do the best to help the private sector in the development of better trade."

A resident of Bukidnon asks his question in the Visayan language, and it is translated into English by moderator Orly Punzalan: "I wish to thank you for showing your concern for us by having people here to find out about our living conditions. Our problem is that we are being mistaken as insurgents even though we really are not. We are peace-loving people and do not want any trouble or disorder. But we are helpless against the rebels who frequent our barangay. We wish to seek your assistance in this matter. Lastly, we are in dire need of teachers for our school, which has been closed for 2 years."

The president replies: "Thank you very much, Mr Emiliano, of Barangay Kapihan, Libona, Bukidnon. A law has been passed reorganizing the Peace and Order Council. This is contained in Executive Order [EO] Nos 317 and 320. According to these EO's, the Council's aim is to establish and maintain an orderly system of relations between the government and the citizenry and to spread and maintain peace in the country. The Peace and Order Council works on three levels: regional, provincial, and municipal and city. I will issue an order to the Department of Local Government to investigate the problem in your area and apply the necessary solution. I call on all of you in Bukidnon to be united, because I believe that in so doing we can solve our country's problems."

"Regarding your request to open a school in Baungon and the need for teachers in your barangay, please talk to the principal of the school so that he can relay your

request to Director Pedro Trinidad, DECS [Department of Education, Culture, and Sports] Region 10 regional director. Director Trinidad will take the necessary action."

Another question is from a KABATID [Kilusan ng Kababaihang Tumataguyod sa Demokrasya—Women's Movement To Uphold Democracy] member: "Good afternoon, Mrs President. I am Chita Siquia Almario, a member of KABATID. My question is: According to some columnists' commentaries in our leading newspapers, your invitation to Nur Misuari to take part in the talks on the /very critical Mindanao issue/ had a bad effect. Their observations reveal that Misuari was quiet and maintaining a low profile in the Middle East before you extended the invitation for him to participate in the talks. What can you say about this?"

"I would also like to ask you a favor. This is not a question, but a favor. Please allow Commissioner Miriam Defensor Santiago to retain her post as CID [Commission on Immigration and Deportation] commissioner because she has done a great deal of good in this department. /Please keep her in her present position, and a lot of Filipinos will be grateful for this./ Thank you very much."

The president answers: "When I first went to see Nur Misuari, my goal was to resolve the Mindanao problem in the most peaceful manner. But our opinions regarding the issue were different. I do not blame anyone for what happened, because I was able to impart to them [presumably referring to the MNLF] the government's sincerity. If they now want to renew the talks, the move should come from them. In reality, the government has taken the initiative by creating the Regional Consultative Commission."

"Regarding Commissioner Miriam D. Santiago," says President Aquino, "I do not have plans to transfer her to another post, because you were right when you said that she has already done a great deal for the government."

Aquino also answers questions on retirement benefits, funds for the integrated farming projects, the plight of the Metro Manila public school teachers, and disciplinary actions in malpractice cases in government offices.

At the end of the program the president addresses the people: "What I would like to see happen is that I will always be informed about your situation and how you are being served by our government officials. In this way, I will know if they fail to serve the people and demand more from them so that they can render better services."

"I would also like you to be kept informed about our country's situation. I myself will keep you abreast of recent events. I do hope that you will tell me what is happening in your area so we can apply the means to improve your situation."

Columnist Calls for Innovative Leadership
HK3005124488 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE
in English 28 May 88 pp 1, 9

["Analysis" column by Amando Doronila: "Bold Changes Need Innovative Leadership"]

[Text] More than two years after the EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue] Revolution, the agenda of the nation has qualitatively changed. News about politics and the turbulence of coups and rebellions are being pushed out of the center stage. They are being replaced by news on the toils of economic recovery, the growing pains of political stabilization, the deepening roots of political institutionalization, and the conflicts of foreign policy.

This means that after the initial shocks of the rough journey in the transition from the dictatorship to a flawed democracy, the nation is settling down to the boring routine of undramatic news.

This process of settling down is reflected in the unexciting news presented by the media. If the media are the mirror of the times, then the news that they report and interpret represent the agenda of normality. One sign of the developing normality is that foreign correspondents—who covered the February 1986 events by the thousands—are a skeleton staff. They are scrounging for news—but hard, exciting news are rare—and so they look for stories about mundane matters like the Lopez-Lim controversy over the Ermita raids or the quality of life in Manila.

Instead of coups and subterranean conspiracies grabbing the headlines, the front pages of the newspapers report about the military bases review, the mini-Marshall plan, the parochial municipal controversies, and, of course, the upbeat news on the economy. For example, the national Economic and Development Authority has reported that during the first quarter of 1988, the economy has posted a GNP growth of 7.5 percent, compared with the 5.53 percent during the same period last year.

Media do not invent their priorities. They do reflect the national agenda in the sense that they report what are perceived to be important by the national leadership and the different sectors of society.

We have had two elections within the past two years, all aimed at establishing the foundations of representative democracy. The results have not been entirely happy because the social groups that had been unrepresented in Congress since the 1900s remain unrepresented in the present Congress. We cannot have elections every week and so we have to come to terms with the reality that institutionalizing political change is a boring process.

The politicians know they are being crowded out by the non-political items—like economics—from the agenda. So they are doing a lot of silly things to gain front page

attention. More silly is the effort by the deposed Tanodbayan [ombudsman] to challenge the ruling of the Supreme Court stripping him of powers to initiate prosecution. In all these charades, the underlying issue is that the territorial and political boundaries of the presidency, Congress, and the judiciary are being defined through the process of peaceful change.

While these adjustments to normality are taking place, the presidency has not lived up to expectations that it should be the fountain of national initiatives for social and political reform. It has remained a passive participant in the formation of a redistributive policy on agrarian reform. The agenda setting for the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (Carp) has been captured by the landlords.

The presidency is even less of an inspiration in setting the agenda for the relationship with the United States over the crucial issue of the military bases. It is allowing, by default, the Senate to dictate the agenda of issues for the revision of the bases agreement and it is losing control of policy. There are too many voices from within the institutional branches of Government articulating different positions on the bases—and this disarray is not very helpful to our panel in the negotiations with the Americans.

While the politics of turbulence has lost its preeminence in the agenda, other items have been pushed to the margins. Human rights are in danger of being completely erased from the agenda—thanks to the downgrading of the issue by the Government that has sacrificed it as a trade off for military support.

This trade off has led to a military that is becoming bolder in its efforts to wipe out the insurgency with schemes to wipe out, as well, certain political rights cherished by a free press. The schemes concern the determination of the military leadership to cut off access by the media—both foreign and domestic—to the insurgents. These schemes strike at the heart of the witness and independent role of the media in reporting conflicts.

The diminution of the concern for human and political rights is casting a shadow over whether this transition is leading us to a democracy or a mimicry of democracy. To be sure, economic growth is taking place, but this is the growth that makes the conservative economists and the businessmen happy. Growth took place during the early years of the Marcos martial law regime, and the economists and the businessmen were happy.

But this type of economic development places emphasis on growth with trickle down effect, and with very little redistributive impact. This imprisons us in the economic orthodoxy of the 1950s—the decade in which growth without redistribution was the unchallenged doctrine.

So, if we examine the agenda of normality into which the nation has settled down, we are faced with a landscape of political and economic conservatism that is not blazing new frontiers for a national renewal. The national leadership, because of its passivity, and perhaps its hacienda outlook, is not innovative enough to make daring and bold change. It is managing change in the style of a paternalistic landlord. It has promoted economic recovery and growth, but is not making much headway in redistributing wealth even in its mildest form.

Thus after the heady days of the February Revolution, the change that has followed has failed to excite and provoke the imagination of men and women willing to march into a brave new world. The post-revolutionary agenda is drab.

De Villa Denies Newsmen Under Surveillance
BK2805055288 Manila PNA in English 0445 GMT 28 May 88

[Text] Manila May 28 (OANA/PNA)—No journalist, either Filipino or foreign, has been placed under military surveillance, according to Philippine Armed Forces Chief Gen Renato De Villa.

"I have not ordered any surveillance effort against any media personality. We will not use surveillance as a threat or as a pressure on media. That will not happen," he told newsmen Friday.

The assurance came amid reports that some journalists suspected to be aiding the banned Communist Party of Philippines (CPP) and its guerrilla arm, the New People's Army (NPA), were being tailed by intelligence operatives.

The alleged surveillance cropped up last week after the military seized rebel documents containing a list of 184 local and foreign journalists who interview guerrilla leaders.

A captured guerrilla woman rebel also confessed having seen at least five Caucasian-looking personalities prior to the ambush-slaying of army scout rangers last February.

De Villa said an inter-agency body had been formed to look into such reports.

He admitted the military has not yet identified the five Caucasian journalists sighted in rebel-infested Bicol region, south of here, making a documentary film on insurgency activities.

"Right now, no journalist is being investigated," General de Villa said. "The military is not against media because media is very necessary in keeping our democracy alive and strong."

He also said the hunt for ex-army Lt. Col. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan is still in progress.

Honasan, leader of last year's aborted putsch, escaped from his prison ship April 2.

De Villa admitted the military has no lead yet as to the whereabouts of the cashiered coup leader, one of the heroes of the 1986 February revolution that toppled the 20-year old regime of former President Ferdinand Marcos.

De Villa said the military would not stop Honasan's manhunt until his recapture, adding charges against him have been filed before a military tribunal.

Ilocos Said Waiting for Marcos' Return
HK3005122088 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 30 May 88 p 7

[Text] Laoag, Ilocos Norte (PNF) [Philippine News and Features]—There is an air of expectation in the home region of ousted President Marcos as reports of his "imminent return to the country" last week fueled hopes of the former strongman's political resurrection.

Marcos loyalists have tried to make political capital out of the death of Marcos' mother, the 94-year-old Dona Josefa Edralin Marcos. His followers have been keeping vigil over the body of Dona Josefa for almost a month now, and holding protest rallies in Manila demanding that the government allow the former dictator to return.

Marcos' closest relatives say the decision to finally bury Dona Josefa is up to the former President. Marcos has so far not decided on the burial, apparently hoping he can still return to the Philippines.

Laoag City, Batac, the Marcos hometown, and other parts of the region, are flying streamers saying "Welcome home, President Marcos." Other banners unabashedly proclaim that "We need you, Apo (Elder) Marcos."

President Aquino has refused to allow the ousted President to return for the interment of his mother, who died May 4.

Baguio City Mayor Ramon Labo Jr., an avid supporter of Marcos, accused the Government of being "inconsistent with Filipino tradition," which he said requires close relatives to attend burials.

Political observers in the Ilocos believe that the extended wake and the build-up for the "arrival" of Marcos have become a political instrument to force the present leadership to grant concessions to Marcos and his supporters.

Speculations about Marcos' return heightened when Erwin Ver, son of former Armed Forces Chief of Staff Fabian Ver, was reported to have announced that the exiled Marcos was definitely attending his mother's burial this week.

Government authorities are not taking any chances and have sent troops to guard Laoag International Airport and the Clark Air Base.

Most of the former president's political leaders in Ilocos, including his former military henchmen, swept last January's local elections here. A powerful group consisting of 29 political leaders in the region has also been organized.

Pablito Sanidad, Ilocos Sur opposition leader, believes that there are many among the former president's men who may find Marcos' return, "uncomfortable or even dangerous," since "it will mean the unmasking of their political opportunism."

"They are afraid that if Marcos comes back, they will be caught in the embarrassing situation of having to choose between welcoming and being seen with their former protector, or pretending they never knew him and hiding behind the skirts of their new benefactor (President Aquino) who can now give greater rewards and greener pastures," Sanidad said.

Meanwhile, the streets of Batac town have been festooned with banners saying, "We love you President Marcos, we need you Apo Marcos" since last week. A tomb in Batac still awaits the body of Dona Josefa.

Committee Fails To Reach Accord on Land Bill
HK3005113888 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
1000 GMT 30 May 88

[Text] The joint congressional draft conference committee has again failed to resolve differences on the government's comprehensive agrarian reform program (CARP). More details from Jojo Ismael:

[Begin recording] The 22-member bicameral conference committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives has failed to reach an agreement on the issue of compensation and order of priority in the distribution of projected agricultural land. The Senate panel, headed by Senator Heherson Alvarez, proposed that land distribution be started in the second year of the implementation of CARP, while the House panel, led by Mandaluyong Congressman Ronaldo Zamora, wanted it carried out in the fourth year.

At the same time, the House panel continued to voice concern that the government may not have sufficient funds to implement CARP. Meanwhile, some senators claimed that the objections of congressmen in the CARP committee was not based on financial reasons but rather were politically motivated.

This is Jojo Ismael reporting for the Philippine Broadcasting System. [end recording]

Official Charges Nicaragua Supporting NPA
HK3005121488 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English
30 May 88 pp 1, 16

[Text] The Nicaraguan government is supporting the New People's Army (NPA) and should not be invited to the 15-nation International Conference of Newly Restored Democracies scheduled in Manila from June 3 to 6, a top government official said yesterday.

"The invitation to the Nicaraguans should be withdrawn because it is an outrage to the Aquino administration and the Filipino people," the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said.

He said that among the documents seized in the raids on Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) "safe houses" in Metro Manila last March 29 were letters from senior NPA members to the Sandinistas.

In an Aug. 10, 1986 letter to Alberto Gallegos, a member of the Sandinista international department, NPA member "Miguel Santiago" thanked Gallegos for "hosting" him during the NPA man's visit to Nicaragua.

Santiago is described in the letter as a member of the political department of the NPA general staff.

In the letter, Santiago thanked the Sandinistas for introducing him to Cuban and Salvadoran "comrades" during his visit to Nicaragua and for the offer to train two NPA doctors in that Central American nation.

He added that the NPA plans to send some NPA cadres to El Salvador to observe guerrilla operations there.

Gallegos asked the Sandinistas for help in this regard.

The existence of a second letter was reported, dated Aug. 15, 1986, from Daniel Bagani, chief of the NPA general staff, this time to Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega through Gustavo Moreno, vice chairman of the Sandinista department of international relations.

Bagani is reportedly the code name of NPA leader Romulo "Rolly" Kintanar. His letter expressed appreciation for the "fruitful visit" of Santiago to Nicaragua and for the offer to train two NPA doctors.

The informant asked why the Philippine government invited Nicaragua to the conference when it is assisting a guerrilla force determined to bring down the Aquino government and destroy democracy in the Philippines.

He said the military should confirm the existence of other letters or documents found in the San Juan and Sikatuna Village safe houses to determine the tieup of the NPA and foreign organizations and the possible foreign training of NPA rebels.

Since the NPA letters were written almost two years ago, it is likely the NPA doctors had been to Nicaragua but what kind of training they got and where they are now, nobody knows, he said.

It is also possible that other NPA members besides Santiago have gone to that country since the letter was written, he added. h

An article in a local daily last April 30 noted that the National Democratic Front (NDF) signed a "joint accord" with El Salvador's "Farabundo Marti para la Liberacion Nacional" (FMLN) last April 12.

It was not clear, however, what kind of support the Sandinistas, Salvadoran rebels, and Cubans are giving the NPA, the official said.

The participation of Nicaragua in the conference has stirred a controversy in the United States and in friendly nations opposed to the Sandinista government.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus said Nicaragua was invited by participating nations for a variety of reasons, including the fact that it used to be under a dictatorship and had taken steps towards democracy.

Two West German foundations—the Friedrich Neumann Stiftung and the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung—had reportedly withdrawn financial support to the conference allegedly due to U.S. influence.

However, Manglapus said "one of these foundations never really joined actively into the program although its representative attended a couple of our meetings, and we still have to hear from the other."

The foreign secretary stressed no written or oral communication was submitted to him, showing any country's displeasure over the participation of Nicaragua.

Thailand

Academics Petition King on Prem's Neutrality

MATICHON Carries Petition
BK0106060688 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai
31 May 88 p 2

["Petition of 99 Academics to the King"]

[Text] May it please your majesty:

We, whose names are listed below, would like to have your majesty's permission to express to you our impression on the present situation in the country.

1. Political confusion and the decline in people's faith in the parliamentary democratic system are increasing with each moment. Divisions and disunity have occurred among the military, civil servants, and the people

because the political leader who is the caretaker head of the government has not been truly neutral. He has allowed the military forces, whose duty is to protect and develop the country, to be used as a show of force to support personal political status. This has led to unnecessary divisions.

2. If the country wants to truly progress in line with the parliamentary democratic system with the king as the head of state, it needs to have a political leader who is neutral, who upholds justice, who adheres to the principle of nonviolence in reaching for an understanding and resolving conflicts, and who refrains from public incitement and instigation. All of these are the right path for preventing undesirable circumstances and situations and achieving a political atmosphere that is conducive to democratic principles and in keeping with the traditions of Thai society.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our loyalty to the principal institutions of the country; namely, the nation, religion, monarchy, and the democratic system of government with the king as the head of state. We are against any changes that do not conform with the legitimate rules; we are especially opposed to the coup d'etat. We are ready to sacrifice our personal benefits for the sake of justice, order, peace, and happiness in the country, where the people's voice and their participation are recognized.

For this reason, we appeal to the power and patronage of your majesty—who is the source of supreme justice in the tradition of the country's administration and the origin of the Constitution that serves as the rule for national administration, and who exercises the sovereign power, which is derived from your subjects—may such power guide the political leader in the post of head of the government to be truly neutral and refrain from leaning himself upon any institution to maintain his political post, and may it cause any political change that will take place to be peaceful and comply with the Constitution and the law in the interest of the common happiness of your subjects.

At your mercy, we remain.

Prem Promises Impartiality
BK0106011188 Bangkok THE NATION in English
1 Jun 88 pp 1, 2

[Excerpt] Premier Prem Tinsulanon yesterday defended his role as a caretaker premier and vowed to remain impartial in the upcoming general election.

"I'm making myself impartial without any ulterior motive," he told reporters at Government House after the weekly Cabinet meeting.

He said he has a constitutional obligation to oversee the July 24 general election and he intends to do so with impartiality.

His declaration of impartiality came in response to 99 academics and professionals who last Friday petitioned His Majesty the King, expressing concern that Prem and the Army may be partial towards some parties in the general election.

"They can say what they want about impartiality and what it means. They are entitled to their own opinions.

"I reaffirm that I'll remain impartial," Prem said.

He cautioned his critics against inappropriately involving the King in political issues.

"They can do whatever they like," Prem said. "But they must be careful when it comes to involving His Majesty the King."

The Royal Household Bureau has reportedly sent the petition to Government House. But Prem said he hadn't read it.

Asked whether he wants to discuss this issue with the group of 99, Prem replied: "I think not. They made known their opinions and we can see whether they are right or wrong."

Prem also said, in response to a question, that he sees nothing wrong with the frequent visits of army officers to his residence.

"They come with sincere intentions.... They may come again," he said.

He also said he would not stop the army officers because they are only showing their "goodwill towards me." He added: "Just like if I want to visit you (reporters), there is no reason for me to stop the visit. I think it doesn't have anything to do with the question of impartiality." [passage omitted]

Prem Aide Criticizes Petition

BK2805025788 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
28 May 88 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon's secretary-general, Sqn-Ldr [Squadron Leader] Prasong Sunsiri, yesterday criticised a move by 99 academics and prominent figures to petition His Majesty the King on what they say is Gen Prem's lack of neutrality as head of the caretaker government.

The academics handed their petition to the Office of His Majesty's principal private secretary yesterday afternoon.

Sqn-Ldr Prasong told the BANGKOK POST:

"One must be careful (and consider) whether it is appropriate or not to involve the highest institution in the land in politics.

"I feel this is not correct. These methods are not correct," he said.

Sqn-Ldr Prasong, who is travelling with the Prime Minister in Hungary, said Gen Prem had been informed of the move, but he declined to comment on the Premier's reaction.

"There are other avenues to express political thinking. This action by the academics is not appropriate," the secretary-general said.

He said academics are "people who have knowledge", and they should realise their actions would cause confusion and hinder the development of the democratic system.

Sqn-Ldr Prasong said he has a list of those who signed the petition. He said if any changes are to be made, they should wait until there is a Parliament.

In Bangkok, leading officials yesterday rushed to the Prime Minister's defence.

Deputy Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan described Gen Prem as being neutral and not favouring one group over another.

"I cannot see where he has been partial," the Chat Thai Party leader said, adding he did not think the petition would affect the Premier though it may cause political confusion.

He said Gen Prem called him at about 5.00 p.m. yesterday to ask about the situation at home. Maj-Gen Chatchai said he told the Premier everything was fine.

PM's Office Minister Flt-Lt [Flight Lieutenant] Suli Mahasanthana said:

"I think he (Gen Prem) is neutral. He has tried his best."

A leading Prachakon Thai Party member said the petition would not have any effect on the Prime Minister.

"His Majesty is above politics, so I believe he won't make any response to the petition," party secretary-general Samak Sirichan said.

He added he believed Gen Prem would refuse to discuss the issue.

"It is his character to keep quiet. This is his tactic to prolong his stay in office," he said, adding the group should have handed the petition to the Prime Minister, not the King.

In claiming that the Premier has not been neutral, the petition cites as an example the use of the Armed forces to stage a show of force for his political status and "causing divisions and conflicts in society".

The petition asks that the King caution the head of the Government to adopt true neutrality, and that the Premier should not "cite any institution" to further his own status.

Those known to have signed the petition are not affiliated with any political parties or groups.

They include such prominent figures as social scientists Dr Chai-anan Samutwanit and M.R. Sukhumphan Bori-phat, genetics engineer Dr Yongyut Yuthaphong and former Magsaysay Award winner Dr Prawet Wasi.

Sources involved with organising the petition said there have been attempts to create confusion about their action by linking it with efforts to amend the Constitution or "mobilise mobs to cause a situation similar to October 14, 1973".

The sources said the group wants no part of either amending the Constitution or creating a situation that could lead to a coup.

Gen Prem is due to return to Bangkok tomorrow at 9.30 a.m.

Khukrit Comments

BK2805023988 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
28 May 88 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts] Former prime minister M.R. Khukrit Pramot said Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon is unlikely to resign, although he should do so after members of the public lodged a petition with His Majesty the King yesterday expressing doubt over Gen Prem's neutrality in the forthcoming general election.

M.R. Khukrit said lodging a petition with the King has been a custom since the time of Phra Ruang, or King Ramkhamhaeng the Great. [passage omitted]

He said petitions are frequently submitted to the King these days mostly concerning various ministries.

The petitions are usually passed on to the relevant authorities.

"But never before has there been a petition against the Prime Minister. In this case, the petition must be sent to the Prime Minister's Office as required by the Constitution," the elder statesman said.

"During the time of absolute monarchy, the King was able to decide on the matter by himself.

"But, since the King is now under the law and the Constitution, he has to pass the matter to his government and cannot do anything of his own will.

"If the King acts on a petition, the countersignature of a Cabinet minister is required. If the King wants the Prime Minister out, a countersignature by the Prime Minister is also required. It's a matter of democracy," M.R. Khukrit said.

"He (Gen Prem) should look at himself to see whether the reasons cited in the petition are correct.

"If the reasons are sound, then he should tell His Majesty that he will resign according to the petition. But I don't think this prime minister would do it that way.

"And I think those who submitted the petition did not really want him to resign. They wanted to form a consensus of opinion that the Prime Minister should do that. So they did it in a big way," M.R. Khukrit said.

Asked whether Gen Prem should resign after the King passes the petition to the PM's Office, M.R. Khukrit said:

"He (Gen Prem) would think he should not resign.

"He would say other people tell him not to resign because he was successful in talking the Russians into ending the Kampuchean war and Vietnamese troops are being withdrawn. He would not resign."

M.R. Khukrit said that in passing the petition to the PM's Office, the King would not specify whether he should resign or not, but would say only that the petition is for consideration.

"It is not because 99 people petition the King that the Prime Minister must resign. If so, the people would easily be able to oust the Prime Minister by petitioning the King with only 99 or even five signatures," said the former premier.

He said a petition by 99 people does not have enough weight to cause the Prime Minister to resign, but it indicates that the people are "tired enough" of the Premier to feel they had to petition the King.

M.R. Khukrit said he believed the petitioners did not really want the King to oust Gen Prem, but wanted to make their voices heard by submitting the petition.

He said it is not possible for any country to have a caretaker government that is neutral before a general election.

"In Britain, after a dissolution of Parliament, the Government has to remain to supervise the election.

"We have to believe that the Government will not indulge in foul play. We have to believe in human justice and believe that everybody is abiding by democratic rules.

"The Opposition in Britain never takes this matter seriously. They fight seriously in the election. If defeated, they never accuse the other side of money-dumping. They simply concede defeat," he said.

Asked whether it is possible that Army Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut would be able to garner enough support from political parties to become prime minister after the election, M.R. Khukrit said this was unlikely because Gen Chawalit has "destroyed himself and nobody understands him".

He added: "The belief he is a student of communist defector Prasoet Sapsunthon has become prevalent."

M.R. Khukrit described Gen Chawalit as a man "without intelligence who wants to express opinions."

"He therefore, has to rely on Mr Prasoet who also has very little intelligence," the elder statesman said.

Dailies View Petition

BK2805122188 [Editorial Report] Three Thai-language dailies, THAI RAT, NAEO NA, and MATICHON, on 28 May carry comments about the move of a group of academics to file a petition to His Majesty the King expressing concern over the lack of neutrality by Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanon, who is now the leader of the caretaker government pending the general election.

THAI RAT's page 5 column by Pleo Si-ngoen, entitled: "The Too Clever Academics," disagrees with the move. According to Dr Prawet Wasi, who is a member of the group, an example of Prem's lack of neutrality is his allowing military leaders to march to his residence in a show of support for him. This has created an atmosphere of confusion in politics.

"Although Dr Prawet reasoned that the group did not want to involve the king in politics but only to protect democracy, the move cannot be viewed as anything but an attempt to drag down the highest institution to meddle with politics," the columnist says. He adds that the academics' petition implies that the king has the authority to choose or reject anyone as prime minister. That means he is no longer above politics under a constitutional democracy.

If the academics do not want Prem as prime minister, they should resort to a democratic approach to get rid of him, such as by setting up a political party and fielding candidates in the election under a no-Prem platform, or by trying to convince political parties not to vote for Prem as the next prime minister. "If they think it is wrong for Army leaders to march to Prem's house in a show of support, it is also wrong for the academics to file a petition against Prem," the columnist concludes.

NAEO NA's editorial on page 5, entitled: "Don't Pull Down the Highest Institution," strongly criticizes the move as "an attempt to involve the king in politics." Referring to the contents of the petition, the editorial notes that it is petty and echoes the accusations against Prem made by opposition parties. The opposition parties find fault with Prem mainly out of their disappointment at not being in the coalition. "The fact that the academics are using the same reasons used by the opposition parties against Prem shows that they are following the wrong path and trying to mislead others. Their move is very dangerous to the monarchy as well as to society," the editorial says.

"The king is above politics and above any governmental conflicts. There is a rule to follow if anybody is unhappy with what is going on in the country. From the fact of giving prominence to their opinion to the point of pulling down the highest institution to their support, the academics only demonstrated their ill intention toward the country," NAEONNA says.

MATICHON's editorial on page 8, entitled: "The Intellectuals' Strength," supports the move by 99 academics, saying it is "an intellectual campaigning in order to put things in place." The editorial agrees that, as a caretaker government, Gen Prem is required to try his best to stand above all conflicts and rivalry among political and interest groups. Prem, however, has ignored this principle. He hosted a meeting for political parties in his coalition and told them to cooperate in the elections. Moreover, he welcomed Army officers taking turns in marching to his house in a show of support for him.

The move by the academics reflects their utter frustration with the political situation. It points to a social temperature worth watching. "Those academics are not politicians and do not want to replace Prem as prime minister. What they want is to give a signal to Prem, telling him that he should humbly perform his duty properly and not think that he is more important than the people," the paper concludes.

Weeklies Doubt Prem Will Regain Premiership
BK2905032088 Bangkok **BANGKOK POST** in English
29 May 88 p 8

[From the "Inprint" column: "Prem May Not Return to Office"]

[Text] SU ANAKHOT doubted that Gen Prem will return to office after the July 24 general election.

The political weekly disclosed an interesting event on May 18 when the "Big Four"—namely Army C-in-C Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, Ratsadon Party leader Gen Thienchai Sirisamphan, Chat Thai Party leader Maj-Gen Chatchai Chunnawan and Assistant Army C-in-C Gen Suchinda Khrapayun, leader of the powerful Class Five of the Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy—went to play golf at Muang Ek.

It was not known what was discussed among them, but the magazine speculated that the "Big Four" had talked politics and the most likely issue was the next government and prime minister.

The Ratsadon Party has made known that it no longer wants Prem while the Chat Thai Party, which is expected to gain the most seats in the House, is also known for its "fence-straddling" attitude, ready to shift to any side in order to be in the government. Gen Suchinda, meanwhile, will feel more comfortable if Gen Chawalit leaves the military service to assume the premiership.

Worthy of note is that Gen Prem has never set up a government by himself throughout his eight years in office. Instead, it was Gen Chawalit or the general's men who actually pulled the strings. Judging from this, Gen Chawalit has an edge over Gen Prem. Besides, he seems to have established a good relationship with the coalition parties.

The question, therefore, is whether Gen Chawalit is still happy with the role of a No. 2 man or will he decide to change the role and go into the ring as a fighter? As a saying goes: "One has to fight to be a champion. There is no championship for No. 2."

SU ANAKHOT said that if Gen Chawalit decided to change role, there would be a political change along the line of a peaceful revolution as professed by the general, amendments of the constitution and other laws in accordance with announcements No. 66/23 and 65/26.

KHAO PHISET, however, doubted that both Prem and Chawalit would be appointed prime minister. Prem, noted the weekly, has not been quite efficient in solving national problems. Also, he may cause a military coup (if he still patronises Gen Chawalit and retains him as the Army chief in order to prop up his political base).

The "scholar" (Khukrit) and the "divine being" feel that if Gen Prem still patronises Gen Chawalit, the threat of radical political changes persists. In that case, Kukrit has a chance of assuming the premiership.

If the "divine being" wants Khukrit to take the helm of the country, KHAO PHISET believed there will be no problem as far as political parties and the military are concerned. Military officers, it said, would not dare stage a coup for fear of the sedition charges filed against the plotters of the September 9 abortive coup.

Weeklies Say Coup Threat 'Greatly Subsided'
*BK2905033088 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
29 May 88 p 8*

[From the "Inprint" column: "Threat of Military Coup Diminishes"]

[Text] SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN and MATICHON
SUT SAPDA weeklies agreed that there was a serious threat of a military coup d'etat during the week before Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon was due to leave for the Soviet Union, Finland and Hungary for official visits.

Now, the situation has changed and the threat has greatly subsided.

The two weeklies said the threat of a military coup emerged when the Prime Minister dissolved Parliament on April 29. The coup plotters, they noted, would justify their action by claiming the lack of unity in the coalition Government as manifested by the votes against the Copyright Bill by the Democrat rebels. The threat intensified to the point where Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut on May 15 dropped a bombshell at a press conference during his visit to Uthai Thani on his birthday.

The Army chief was quoted to have said that the Army supports democracy and wants to see stability being maintained in the country. But many others think otherwise and hold the military as an ineffective organisation, lacking the capability and guts to, for instance, stage a coup because its power has been balanced by other forces.

The weeklies also quoted Gen Chawalit as saying that he would like to know whether there is any force which can stop him from staging a coup. He also said that he would have to seek public consent before staging a coup.

Ironically, Gen Chawalit last year made a statement of similar controversial nature. Again this year, after he dropped the bombshell, a group of people who called themselves "Revolutionary Council" immediately held a meeting at the Royal Hotel to echo his view. Besides, a few labour unions, such as the State Railway of Thailand union at Makkasan, Port Authority of Thailand, Bangkok Mass Transit Authority and Thailand Tobacco Monopoly unions, also reacted by making loud noises. The situation then was so confused as if there were someone who deliberately created a situation to justify a military coup.

Amidst the confusion, former prime minister M.R. Khukrit Pramo, the so-called "Pillar of Democracy," stepped out and launched a one-man's war against Gen Chawalit.

(M.R. Khukrit voiced his opposition to the Army's call for constitutional amendments in 1983. His famous remark then was "I am not afraid of you." Then last year, he made an equally explosive statement, saying that Gen Chawalit might introduce a mixed system of Communism and constitutional monarchy in Thailand. The statement prompted a group of Army-trained rangers to besiege his Suan Phlu residence.)

Apparently, M.R. Khukrit's show-down with Gen Chawalit was well prepared and timed. That is, it happened one day after he was granted an audience with His Majesty the King (May 17).

SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN said that quite a few conservative military officers agree with Kukrit's assessment that a patiwat [coup] would endanger several institutions.

The aftermath of the showdown is that Gen Chawalit had to step back. The coup threat has also waned.

But analysts are wondering whether this latest political episode would become a blind spot in Gen Chawalit's political future.

Chawalit Reiterates Neutrality in Military
BK2805031788 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
28 May 88 p 2

[Text] Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut has ordered all military officers to remain neutral during the general election. Deputy Commander-in-Chief Gen Wanchai Ruangtrakun said yesterday.

Gen Wanchai said the order applied to all army radio and television stations in presenting news about the election.

The order was issued by Gen Chawalit on May 3 and reiterated by the army chief to unit commanders during a meeting earlier this month.

Gen Chawalit reportedly told the officers to strictly follow his orders.

Army Chief-of-Staff Gen Charuai Wongsayan has been ordered to map out plans for use of military resources in supporting the Government's aim of bringing about a fair election.

Under Gen Chawalit's order, the Army will over-see that:

- All its members remain neutral in the election;
- Soldiers exercise their voting rights;
- Unit commanders explain the importance of the election to their men; and
- All commanders refrain from influencing subordinates to vote or act in favour of any particular parties or candidates.

The army radio network and Television Channels 5 and 7 were also instructed to present fair and balanced reports on the election.

The two television stations were ordered to follow the National Radio and Television Broadcasting Control Board's policy of allowing party leaders to air their campaign messages.

Deputy Commander Denies Army Bias for Prem
BK2805032188 Bangkok THE NATION in English
28 May 88 p 2

[Text] Deputy Army Commander in Chief Wanchai Ruangtrakun yesterday called a news conference to deny charges that the army is politically motivated in favouring Premier Prem Tinsulanon as the post-election prime minister.

He also said the army will resume its "morale-boosting shows" when Prem returns from a two-week tour of East Europe Sunday [29 May].

"We will be at the airport to receive him and some of us also will call on him at his home later," he said.

Wanchai said he will lead a committee directing the army-run television programmes to do a story on Prem's three-nation visit that took him to the Soviet Union, Finland and Hungary.

Wanchai claimed that he was behind a series of visits that army officers made to Prem's residence recently. He said those had nothing to do with Army Commander in Chief Chawalit Yongchaiyut.

He denied that the "traditional shows of respect for superiors" were politically motivated.

The deputy army chief also rejected a suggestion that the moves prompted a group of well-known academics to file a petition with HM [His Majesty] the King yesterday.

In the petition, the academics expressed concern that the government may use the bureaucracy to influence the outcome of the July 24 general election.

"If there is anything wrong with that, then I am ready to take the blame," he said during the news conference at the Capital Security Command.

It is the first time a military officer has taken responsibility for the moves. Formerly, they said the officers made the move on their own.

Wanchai also defended Prem as a "strong government leader" who worked for the good of the people and contributed to the progress of the nation and the armed forces.

Wanchai also repeated the military assurance that the nationwide polls will take place on schedule.

"There will definitely be no coup d'etat because there is no justification for the military to stage one. In fact, all sides are waiting to see who the new MPs will be," he said.

Wanchai stressed that soldiers will follow an order issued early this month instructing them to take a neutral stand during the election campaign.

"Whoever violates the order will be punished," he said.

Vietnam

Further on Planned Troop Withdrawal From PRK

PRK Communique Reported

BK2705163888 Hanoi VNA in English 1534 GMT
27 May 88

["Statement of Kampuchean Foreign Ministry"—VNA headline]

[Text] Hanoi OANA-VNA May 27—According to SPK, the Foreign Ministry of the People's Republic of Kampuchea today issued the following statement:

Following the six partial annual withdrawals of Vietnamese volunteers from Kampuchea begun in 1982, the Governments of the PRK and of the SRV have agreed to effect the seventh withdrawal involving 50,000 men from June to December, 1988. They have also agreed to withdraw Vietnamese volunteers 30 km from the Kampuchean-Thai frontier.

This important withdrawal has been decided in view of the firm and steady development of the PRK in all fields, notably of the increasing capacity of its Armed Forces to assure the defence of the fatherland. Strong with the devoted assistance of Vietnamese volunteers and the support of the people, the Armed Forces of the PRK have developed and are now capable of effective fulfilling their duty. The Kampuchean Government and people are grateful to the Vietnamese Government and people for their solidarity and assistance and for the sacrifices they have made.

At the request of the Kampuchean people, the Vietnamese volunteers have come to do their internationalist duty while strictly respecting the independence and sovereignty of Kampuchea. After the withdrawal of this major part of the Vietnamese volunteers the remainder will be placed by common agreement under the direction of the PRK and will be totally repatriated by 1990 and even earlier should a political settlement of the Kampuchean problem be achieved.

The PRK and the SRV are always ready for a peaceful settlement of the Kampuchean issue. To this end, they have proposed the creation of a security zone along the Kampuchean-Thai frontier, the settlement of the question of Kampuchean refugees in Thailand and their eventual repatriation.

All those proposals still are valid. The decision of the PRK and the SRV to withdraw Vietnamese Army volunteers 30 km from the Kampuchean-Thai border represents a new proof of their goodwill to live in good neighbourliness with the Kingdom of Thailand. The PRK hopes that should Thailand be motivated by the same goodwill she would not miss this propitious opportunity to re-establish the common frontier of peace and friendship between the two countries and begin talks on the question of organized repatriation of Kampuchean refugees in Thailand.

Encouraged by public opinion, the PRK, the SRV and the Lao People's Democratic Republic have made big efforts to find a political solution to the Kampuchean issue. The Ho Chi Minh City agreement of July 29, 1987 between Vietnam and Indonesia, the policy of national reconciliation issued by the PRK on August 27, 1987, its declaration of October 8, 1987 on a political solution to the Kampuchean issue as well as the joint communique of December 4, 1987 of the Hun Sen-Sihanouk meeting in France have been welcomed by world opinion as very encouraging steps to get out of the nine-year-old impasse.

However, there still exists a very dangerous obstacle due to the attempts to bring back to power the Pol Pot criminals of genocide and to impose again their bloody regime on Kampuchea. These criminals continue to enjoy, for this purpose, support and assistance from certain international reactionaries whose interest is to maintain tension. It is absolutely necessary to eliminate this obstacle now that more than half of the Vietnamese volunteer force have withdrawn from Kampuchea. Moreover, it is necessary to bring the Pol Pot criminals before an international tribunal. At the same time, it is necessary to deny them the use of sanctuaries in foreign lands to continue their criminal activities and prolong the undeclared war against the PRK. This legitimate demand conforms not only to the aspiration of the Kampuchean people who are nurturing deep hatred for the Pol Potists and their associates but also to the aspiration of an increasing number of international personalities and organizations. That is a simple justice which could not be denied to the Kampuchean people. The Kampuchean Government and people reiterate their deep gratitude for this international sympathy and support as well as their firm confidence that international community will continue its joint efforts to prevent the return of the criminals of genocide and to ensure peace, independence and non-alignment of Kampuchea.

The Government of the PRK reaffirms its policy of national reconciliation and its stance already expounded in its declaration of October 8, 1987 regarding a political solution to Kampuchea in order to solve the issue by peaceful means, thus actively contributing to transforming Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation as well as to world peace.

Minister Holds News Conference

BK2705114288 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 27 May 88

The papers published in the Hanoi capital today prominently front-paged the Vietnamese Defense Ministry statement on the withdrawal of Vietnamese Army volunteers from Cambodia this year and welcomed all efforts aimed at promoting negotiations to resolve the Cambodia issue by political means.

The papers also reported that Vice Foreign Minister Tran Quang Co gave a news conference at the Government Guest House on the afternoon of 26 May on this year's withdrawal of Vietnamese Army volunteer forces from Cambodia. The local and foreign journalists in the packed conference room listened with keen interest to the Vietnamese Defense Ministry's 26 May communique on the pullout of Vietnamese Army volunteers from Cambodia in 1988 and the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry's statement on this withdrawal.

Answering journalists' questions, Vice Minister Tran Quang Co stressed: This is the seventh and largest pullout since 1982, which includes the withdrawal of the command of the Vietnamese volunteer forces. This shows that the PRK has steadily grown in all respects, especially in its national security and defense capabilities. With this withdrawal of a large number of troops and the Vietnamese volunteer forces' command from Cambodia, the Vietnamese Government has once again shown its consistent stand of absolutely respecting the Cambodian people's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and right to self-determination, and its determination to completely withdraw its Army volunteers by 1990.

NHAN DAN on Troop Withdrawal

BK2905074088 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
2300 GMT 27 May 88

[NHAN DAN 26 May editorial: "The Great Significance of Those Decisions of Goodwill"]

[Text] The SRV and PRK have just announced important agreements reached between the two sides to the effect that 50,000 Vietnamese Army volunteers in Cambodia will be brought home between June and December 1988 and that the command of the Vietnamese Volunteer Army in Cambodia will also be brought home in 1988; that Vietnam and Cambodia welcome representatives from governments of various countries, international organizations, and people concerned about the Cambodia issue to witness this year's troop withdrawal; and that the remaining Vietnamese Army volunteers in Cambodia will be placed under the command of the PRK and will be withdrawn home completely in 1990.

Vietnam supports the PRK's proposal for establishing a zone of peace along the Cambodian-Thai border and for resolving the problem of repatriation of Cambodian

refugees. In line with this spirit, the Vietnamese Army volunteers will pull back 30 km into Cambodian territory along the Cambodian-Thai border.

These decisions have encouraged the two fraternal peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia and have been warmly welcomed by a broad segment of world public opinion.

There have been six phases of the troop withdrawal, accounting for half of the number of Vietnamese Army volunteers in Cambodia, since the first phase in 1982 and other phases carried out in accordance with the statement of the 1983 summit conference of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, and the decision of the PRK and SRV in 1985. This is the seventh troop pullout, and it encompasses half of the remaining Vietnamese Army volunteers—the largest troop withdrawal compared to previous pullouts. In this phase, the command of the Vietnamese Volunteer Army in Cambodia will also be brought home and the remaining Vietnamese Army volunteers in Cambodia will be placed under the guidance of the PRK.

Obviously, this is a major troop withdrawal of special significance. The profound importance of this event rests entirely on the fact that the coming troop pullout is based on the strong growth and all-round maturity of the Cambodian revolution, which is able to independently resolve various concerns of the nation, especially national defense and security concerns. Reviving and starting from the hell created by the genocidal regime, the Cambodian people over the past almost 10 years—under the KPRP's clear-sighted leadership and through assistance from Vietnam, the Soviet Union, and other fraternal socialist countries—have overcome numerous difficulties and hardships in combat and labor and have scored marvelous achievements. The PRK Government, the genuine representative of the Cambodian people, has been and is controlling and managing the entire country while striving to restore and develop all aspects of social life. The KPRAF, which quickly surged forward through practical combat, has grown increasingly stronger and gained further experience and is now able to maintain their fatherland's security using their own strength.

The PRK policy of national reconciliation and the initial results of the meeting between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk have made a solution to the Cambodian issue possible. These eloquent and lively realities testify to the unprecedentedly firm and strong position and power of the Cambodian revolution. This is, in fact, the basis for the agreement between the Vietnamese and Cambodians on the withdrawal of a large number of Vietnamese Army volunteers in the coming seventh troop pullout, which will lead to the total withdrawal of Vietnamese Army volunteers according to plan.

In view of the planned troop withdrawal, our people enthusiastically acclaim the friendly Cambodian people for their outstanding growth. Our people and Armed Forces have, over the past 10 years, overcome many

difficulties and hardships and wholeheartedly supported our Cambodian friends. We take pride in our contributions to the success of the Cambodian revolution.

The withdrawal of Army volunteers this time has testified even more vividly to the noble internationalist spirit of our party, state, and people, and manifested Vietnam's absolute respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and right to self-determination of the friendly Cambodian people.

The agreement between Vietnam and the PRK on the coming major troop pullout has triggered a profound and widespread response from world public opinion. Vietnam's just stance and the PRK's position and prestige have been enhanced markedly. All justice-loving people have recognized our goodwill. Given these facts, all attempts to cast doubt on or misrepresent this goodwill are out of tune and will certainly be laid bare by the truth itself.

We have always matched our words with deeds. The previous six phased troop pullouts and the unprecedentedly large partial troop pullout along with the withdrawal of the volunteer Army command this time are part of our relentless efforts to create favorable conditions to turn Cambodia into a peaceful, independent, neutral, and nonaligned country.

Besides its confirmation that all Army volunteers will be pulled out in 1990, Vietnam has once again expressed its desire to settle the Cambodian issue by political means and to withdraw all its Army volunteers at the agreed-upon time in a political solution to the Cambodian issue.

We welcome all efforts to speed up negotiations so as to reach a political solution to the Cambodian issue and to establish a region of peace, freedom, and neutrality in Southeast Asia as proposed by the ASEAN countries.

The main obstacle to such a solution is the Pol Pot genocidal clique. The legitimate demand of the Cambodian people and other peoples of the world is that the provision of aid and sanctuary to the Pol Pot clique be ended and all the schemes to reimpose the Pol Pot genocidal regime on Cambodia be stopped.

Yet, forces hostile to Cambodia and Vietnam are not prepared to reach an appropriate and fair solution to the Cambodian issue.

Before they reach their goals, the Cambodian people still have to overcome many complicated, difficult problems and many fierce challenges. Yet, the development of the Cambodian revolution is irresistible.

Our people are fully aware of the strategic significance of the special friendship and militant solidarity among the three Indochinese peoples. Therefore, we have ceaselessly strengthened this essential factor of the survival of the three brotherly peoples.

The remaining Army volunteers in Cambodia must undertake the heavy task of joining efforts with their Cambodian friends in wiping out reactionaries and helping the former to constantly develop their strength. Army volunteers are the outstanding sons and daughters of our people. They deserve the confidence of our party and state and the love of our people.

Upon their return to the country following the fulfillment of their internationalist duty, our soldiers will continue to develop their fine traditions through new work assignments. It is necessary for all party committee echelons, administrative organs, and military units at both central and local levels to see to it that everything goes well when it comes to welcoming our cadres and combatants back and caring for every aspect of their livelihood. It is important for them to satisfactorily implement the rear-army policy toward families whose members are due to be repatriated following the fulfillment of their internationalist duty.

Let our entire party, people, and Armed Forces make constant efforts to enhance the effectiveness of the special relations of Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia so as to meet the new conditions of the present situation.

Radio on SRV's 'Goodwill'

BK2705135588 Hanoi International Service
in English 1000 GMT 27 May 88

[Unattributed "Article About Vietnam's Goodwill in Solving the Kampuchean Issue"]

[Text] Acting upon the agreement between the Governments of the SRV and the PRK, 50,000 Vietnamese volunteer troops will be withdrawn from Kampuchea from June to December this year. The two sides have also agreed to withdraw the command of the Vietnamese volunteer forces and place the Vietnamese troops remaining in Kampuchea under the direction of the PRK. The SRV and the PRK welcome as observers of the withdrawal this year representatives of governments and international organizations and those who are interested in the Kampuchean issue.

Acting upon the agreement between the SRV and the PRK, Vietnam has since 1982 carried out annual partial withdrawals, and after six partial withdrawals, half of the Vietnamese volunteer forces had been brought home. This year the two sides agreed on an additional withdrawal of 50,000 troops, which amounts to half of the remaining Vietnamese volunteer troops in Kampuchea.

The Vietnamese troop pullout from Kampuchea this year marks the new progress of the Kampuchean revolution and the firm growth of the PRK. Despite many difficulties, the all-round situation in Kampuchea has more and more stabilized; the Kampuchean People's Armed Forces have gradually grown up and shouldered an ever greater responsibility for national defense.

The policy of national reconciliation issued on 27 August 1987 and the five-point political solution made public on 8 October 1987 by the PRK have exerted great influence. The initial results of the two rounds of talks in Paris between Chairman Hun Sen and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk show that the practical and correct way is to continue the dialogue to find out a fair solution conforming to the common trend. This shows that the Kampuchean issue must be settled by the Kampuchean people themselves.

Vietnam's withdrawal of the largest-ever number of troops this year together with their military equipment manifests its policy of respect for the independence and sovereignty of Kampuchea and its resolve to withdraw all the volunteer forces by 1990. At the same time, it is the wish of the SRV to achieve a political solution to the Kampuchean question and to withdraw all the volunteer forces by the time agreed upon in a political solution to the Kampuchea issue.

All people of conscience can see the goodwill of Vietnam and the PRK through the annual partial withdrawal of the Vietnamese Army volunteers from Kampuchea. Vietnam fully supports the proposal of the Kampuchean Government on the establishment of a zone of peace along the Kampuchean-Thai border and the settlement of the issue of repatriating the Kampuchean refugees. In that spirit, the SRV and the PRK have agreed that Vietnamese volunteer troops be withdrawn from the Kampuchean area stretching 30 km from the Kampuchean-Thai border. But goodwill cannot come from one side. The main obstacle to a political solution to the Kampuchea issue is the Pol Pot genocidal clique. Several forces are still nurturing the Pol Pot clique and using them as an instrument to sabotage the rebirth of Kampuchea and against the three Indochinese countries. The world public demands that the provision of aid and sanctuary to the Pol Pot clique be ended and all the schemes to reimpose the Pol Pot genocidal regime on Kampuchea be stopped.

The partial withdrawal of Vietnamese Army volunteers this year once again shows that the Kampuchean situation is irreversible. The revolutionary cause of the Kampuchean people will certainly win despite difficulties and hardship.

Troop Pullout Welcomed Abroad

BK3105152888 Hanoi VNA in English 1454 GMT
31 May 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 31—The Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry spokesman, Dusan Rovensky, has voiced his country's warm welcome and full support for Vietnamese Government's recent decision to withdraw 50,000 Vietnamese volunteers from Kampuchea.

Speaking to C.T.K. correspondents in Prague yesterday, Dusan Rovensky added that this is a proof of goodwill of the Governments of Vietnam and Kampuchea and also a significant step on the path towards a political settlement of the situation around Kampuchea.

Thai Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon has welcomed Vietnam's statement on the withdrawal of its troops from Kampuchea in 1988.

Addressing a news conference held in Bangkok on May 30 after his return from the visits to the Soviet Union and other East European countries, the Thai prime minister described the decision of the Vietnamese and Kampuchean Governments on the withdrawal of 50,000 Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea as a major event and an important step towards a political solution to the Kampuchean issue.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese paper "AL-SAFIR" in its recent issue wrote that the decision to withdraw 50,000 Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea is in complete agreement with the actual situation in Southeast Asia.

More Foreign Reaction

BK0106083788 Hanoi VNA in English 0724 GMT
1 Jun 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA 1 June—The party and Government of Poland welcome Vietnam's decision to withdraw its Army volunteers from Kampuchea as a timely and significant move, says Jozef Czyrek, Politburo member and secretary of the Polish United Workers' Party Central Committee, while receiving Vietnamese Ambassador Nong The Can in Warsaw recently.

J. Czyrek said that the repatriation of the command of the Vietnamese volunteer force demonstrates Vietnam's goodwill for a peaceful solution to the Kampuchea issue.

In Tirana, a representative of the Albanian Foreign Ministry told the Vietnamese charge d'affaires: "The Albanian people welcome this event and rejoice at the growth in all fields of the Kampuchean people. In the future, we will continue supporting the Vietnamese and Kampuchean peoples. We condemn all actions of foreign countries aimed at undermining the independence, sovereignty and self-determination of the Kampuchean people."

The head of the Department for Asia-Australia of the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry said: "Ethiopia always supports and highly appreciates the decision of Vietnam and Kampuchea. We rejoice at the fine development of the Kampuchean revolution which has made it possible to withdraw a large number of Vietnamese troops this year. Vietnam has shown its consistent goodwill and its sincerity in finding an early, correct and peaceful solution."

The paper NEPSZABADSAG (PEOPLE'S FREEDOM) of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, on 30 May ran a commentary saying: "The withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea not only proves the two countries' determination to solve the issue by political means, but also is a guarantee for a serious confidence-building process in the settlement of one of the worst crises in Southeast Asia."

The Soviet paper PRAVDA on 31 May said: "The Soviet Union considers the decision to pull out half of Vietnam's volunteer force from Kampuchea a great and constructive contribution to the settlement of the conflict in Southeast Asia, to the elimination of military tension and to the normalization of the situation in this region. Obviously, this move is based on the concern for the genuine interests of the Kampuchean people and has taken into account the balance of interests of all nations in the region."

Dinh Nho Liem Receives Cambodian Ambassador
BK3105152388 Hanoi VNA in English 1500 GMT
31 May 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 31—Dinh Nho Liem, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and acting foreign minister, received here today Kampuchean Ambassador Tep Hen.

At the reception, the two sides noted with joy that the recent decision of Vietnam and Kampuchea to repatriate a large part of Vietnamese Volunteer Army from Kampuchea in 1988, and to move the Army volunteers 30 kilometres from the Kampuchean-Thai border, had received warm welcome and high appreciation from world opinion, which considered it an important contribution to the process toward a political solution to the Kampuchean question. They also noted that this testified to the fact that the Vietnamese-Kampuchean decision not only met the interests of the two peoples but also complied with those of other nations, and with the general trend in Southeast Asia and the world as a whole.

The two sides hoped that the decision would contribute to accelerating the talks between Prime Minister Hun Sen and Prince Norodom Sihanouk aimed at bringing about a political solution to the Kampuchean question, and contributing to peace, stability and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

Dinh Nho Liem and Tep Hen voiced their thanks to the Soviet Union, Laos and other socialist countries, the non-aligned countries and other friendly countries in the world for their sympathy and support for the correct position and goodwill attitude of Vietnam and Kampuchea expressed in the coming repatriation of the Vietnamese Army volunteers. They also expressed their confidence that the world public would continue to support for their countries' constructive efforts.

Nguyen Co Thach Speaks at Nonaligned Meeting
BK3005150788 Hanoi VNA in English 1445 GMT
30 May 88

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 30—Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, head of the Vietnamese delegation, said that the countries in the Non-Aligned Movement have the full power to turn Asia, Africa and Latin America into regions without the arms race and foreign military bases.

Speaking at the May 29 session of the ministerial conference of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement held in Havana, the Vietnamese foreign minister pointed out:

"The Non-Aligned Movement has persistently contributed to the cause of disarmament and has taken an active part in the United Nations' efforts in this sense. We will, together with all other nations strive with a strong resolve to play a major role in the cause of disarmament in the interests of peace and development all over the world. We welcome the active steps reached at the Soviet-U.S. summits and call on the United States and the Soviet Union to cut 50 percent of their strategic weapons, and take following steps towards total and complete disarmament". The Vietnamese foreign minister noted: "In Southeast Asia the Non-Aligned Movement has adopted resolutions contributing to a peaceful settlement of the Kampuchean issue. Since late 1987 there have been positive developments in line with the resolutions adopted at the 6th, 7th and (8th) Non-Aligned Movement summits on Southeast Asia including the Kampuchea question. The resolutions of the Non-Aligned Movement call on all parties concerned in Southeast Asia to sit down for talks to solve by peaceful means the Kampuchean issue without intervention from outside".

"We members of the Non-Aligned Movement", Nguyen Co Thach stressed "share the most vital interests, and have the full power to transform Asia, Africa and Latin America into foreign military bases and troops without nuclear weapons and bacterial and chemical weapons. [sentence as received] We will ban the shipment of nuclear arms through the territories of the countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America, and we will set up regions of peace and cooperation where the use of force in solving differences and disputes among nations is ruled out. This is a long and uphill process, but it is in our hands, not in the hands of the imperialist and colonialist forces which want to sell their arms. We can step by step achieve this goal and that will be our tremendous contributions to the cause of global disarmament and peace".

Beggars 'Fleeing' to Hanoi To Escape Famine
BK0106075688 Hong Kong AFP in English 0747 GMT
1 Jun 88

[By Gilles Campion]

[Text] Hanoi, June 1 (AFP)—Hundreds of Vietnamese are fleeing their famine-hit provinces and arriving here

to beg for food but the authorities have begun rounding them up and sending them home, a Hanoi municipal official said.

Nguyen Cong Truong, a permanent member of the Hanoi Municipal Council, said Tuesday [31 May] that since the beginning of last week city authorities had rounded up hundreds of beggars and held them in suburban transit camps for two or three days before sending them back to their home provinces.

He said that most of the hundreds of rural dwellers streaming into the capital in the past few weeks came from Thanh Hoa Province, some 200 kilometres (120 miles) south of here.

Vietnam is in the grip of the worst famine to hit the country since 1945 and seven million people in the North of the country, where some 30 million people live, have been short of food for several months.

Of these, some three million, 40 percent of them children, are in critical condition, according to the government, which has launched an appeal for urgent international aid of 65,000 tonnes of rice and powdered milk.

Since April, dozens of children have descended on Hanoi to beg for food or money. Most have come from Thanh Hoa, which along with neighbouring Nghe Tinh Province is one of the areas worst hit by the famine caused by a severe drought last year.

Mr Nguyen Cong Truong said that vehicles had been sent to patrol the streets of the capital to round up the beggars, who were then fed and given medical care before being sent back to their home provinces.

He said provincial authorities were providing aid relief for the returnees, and added that some of the vagrants had returned home of their own will to gather in the June rice harvest.

"We have never given orders to the police to stop the beggars disembarking from trains (arriving) in Hanoi," he maintained.

According to foreign experts, Vietnam's Agriculture Ministry reckons that the government's call for urgent food aid is premature and believes that the country only needs supplies of seed and pesticides.

But the experts say the June harvest is likely to be poor and add that famine could hit again in August and September when rice stocks are likely to be exhausted once more.

"Famine is a reality in the North, especially in Thanh Hoa and Nghe Tinh, which have already been hit by drought and plagues of insects, but it is difficult to estimate how many people, two or three million, are really threatened," an agronomist told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

"The children, who seem to have been spared so far, could become the first victims when summer ends and the typhoon season starts," he added.

Some of the few beggars here at the weekend said famine had already claimed victims, mainly elderly people, but no official figures have been published from the provinces and journalists have been barred from visiting Thanh Hoa.

Tung, a 12-year-old boy, was one of the few beggars to be seen wandering the streets of the capital at the weekend. He was accompanied by his eight-year-old sister, her hair dull through malnutrition.

Barefoot, his bony body clad in rags, Tung arrived here by train from his home district of Tinh Gia in Thanh Hoa.

"My parents stayed at the house with my two brothers and another sister and told us to return home in two weeks," he said.

He said he and his sister rarely ventured far from the railway station and that they slept on a sidewalk or in a public park.

A 42-year-old woman said she had come here from a Thanh Hoa district with one of her six children. Her husband, a former soldier, was unemployed and the textile firm she worked for could no longer pay its employees.

"We have been short of food since Tet (February) and the local authorities give us nothing," she said, adding she might return home for the June harvest.

"There have been no deaths in my village, but in a nearby village a family of seven killed themselves by eating insecticide because they had no food."

Thai Daily Views Economic, Food Situation
BK2805022988 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
28 May 88 p 5

[By Jacques Bekaert]

[Text] Hanoi—"Why do, we have to change our economic system? Because people are cold and starving."

Mr Thai Duy, the editor of the weekly DAI DOAN KET (THE GREAT UNION, organ of the Front for the Fatherland), is wellknown for that frank statement.

"We need to say farewell to stagnation," he added. But in today's Vietnam, where good ideas are plentiful and practical solutions in short supply, it is easier said than done.

"Five years ago, I was starving, but I was obliged to tell you that things were improving," a Vietnamese friend said. "Today I can at least admit that I am hungry." And so, unfortunately, are many other people, especially in the north.

Mr Nguyen Van Linh, the party secretary himself revealed at the end of March, during the first congress of the Vietnamese peasants, that last year's crop had been a disaster—about 1.7 million tons short of expectation, while at the same time there was no sign of Vietnam's population growth slowing down.

For instance, in the major rice-growing southern province of Hau Giang, grain production declined from 1.5 million tons in 1984 to 1.2 million tons in 1987.

"Our people are very happy with the resolutions of the Sixth Congress," Mr Thai Duy said. "Now we have to implement these resolutions in our daily life."

The Sixth Congress and various party plenums before and after the December 1986 Congress recommended that more attention be paid to agriculture, to consumer products, to fund-raising exports. State enterprises are supposed to show a better sense of responsibility and start making money rather [than] keep swallowing scarce state subsidies. Small and medium-scale private enterprises are now encouraged and a liberal new investment code has been published.

Experts agreed that it represents a move in the right direction although many questions still remain open regarding the code. For instance, who will be responsible for its implementation?

Implementation of the new policy is a key question. Huge masses of cadres, policemen, Customs officers and other bureaucrats have little or no sympathy for reforms. They are forced to pay lip service to the new mood, but their status depends largely on the status quo and for most of them, entrenched in their incompetence, nothing would be more disturbing than the need to show results.

"In the old days, bureaucrats were champions at pushing papers around. They provided the leadership with tons of impressive figures and statistics. Everything looked great on paper," a senior economist said in Ho Chi Minh City. As a result nobody knew for sure what the situation of the Vietnamese economy really was. "We were supposed to make giant leaps forward, but bellies were empty." And confidence in the party's ability to solve the problems of the country kept vanishing.

"One of our most dramatic problems lies in the heavy machinery that rules the economic life of the country," explained Thai Duy. "We must decentralise, give the rank and file some power, especially in the economic field."

A new accent has been recently put on the oldest economic unit: the family. This was clear during the Peasant Congress (observers noted with interest that the word "collective" was for the first time dropped from the name of the Peasant Union.)

"We must also admit that some people will get rich and that there is nothing wrong with being rich." Amazing words from the mouth of a respected Vietnamese commentator. "In the past we destroyed the family unit, we prevented people from making money. To be rich was a sin," Thai Duy said.

"We have distributed poverty with great equality," the foreign minister and now Politburo member Nguyen Co Thach, used to say. Obviously the minister is no longer convinced of the wisdom of such distribution. "We were stupid," he said with unexpected frankness during an interview in Hanoi. "We used to believe that everything was bad in capitalism. Now we must admit that if there are bad things, there are also a lot of positive aspects in capitalism."

"We were guilty of voluntarism," said Mr Nguyen Co Thach, who warned that "it will take at least two or three years for the reforms to show results."

While the investment code has attracted a lot of attention, Vietnamese economic experts both in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City agreed that what the country needed was small investments, a few million dollars at a time, money that it can absorb. Technology that works is no less necessary.

"Let's face it, investing in Vietnam is not yet the most attractive thing in the world," a senior official said in Hanoi. Both in the north and south, electric power is erratic, bureaucracy still omnipresent and suspicion of the West is much in evidence among many officials. At the same time the intellectual climate has improved dramatically, making it easier to at least correctly identify the problems. A lot of young people who had lost hope are beginning to believe that after all their country has a future.

One of the problems concerns the quality of aid received so far by socialist Vietnam. Soviet (and Eastern bloc) products are not popular. The spectacular failure of the Tri An Dam (about 90 kilometres north of Ho Chi Minh City) will do little to reinforce confidence in the USSR's technological expertise. The dam was supposed to satisfy, once and for all, most of the south's energy demand. But a few days after the grand opening the plant had to be closed. Too many flaws made the dam a hazard for the area. The Hoa Binh Dam in the north, another major

Soviet project, is far from completion. (During a previous visit to Vietnam five years ago this correspondent was told that the dam would start operating in 1987).

Nobody in Vietnam today denies that party secretary-general Nguyen Van Linh is sincere and dedicated and that he really wants to provide his country with a better life. So is the acting Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet. The National Assembly, in June, should confirm his nomination. Failure to do so would be considered a terrible setback for reforms. Sources in Hanoi see Mr Vo Van Kiet as the natural partner of Nguyen Van Linh. But, several sources said, resistance to reform runs deep in the party. "The old guard would like nothing better than to impose somebody else than Vo Van Kiet," a senior Vietnamese official said. At the same time he estimated at 70 percent the chances of Vo Van Kiet being confirmed as the next prime minister. Vietnam can certainly not afford another detour on the road to modernisation.

Cadres Blamed for Difficulties in Ha Son Binh
BK0106084788 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Under the title: Although Production and Life Are Difficult, Some Key District and Village Cadres Are Slackening Off, an article carried in a recent issue of the Ha Son Binh newspaper said:

Production activities in the spring, summer-fall, and 10th-month crop seasons are now in full swing, and the peasants face numerous difficulties and strains during the preharvest period. More than 10,000 hectares of late blossoming rice have been threatened by drought, harmful insects, and disease. The time for sowing the 10th-month rice has come, but many localities are running short of rice seed. In the whole province, more than 500,000 people are experiencing difficulties.

While the crop cultivation schedule is tight and the people's lives are fraught with severe difficulties, instead of intensively concentrating leadership and guidance on important tasks, cadres in some localities have evaded their duties. Some district secretaries and chairmen have used official time and transportation means to visit one place or another and tour the South. At some organs in certain districts, some 60-70 percent of cadres and personnel spend their time on unofficial business. In Kim Mon District, some one-third of the villages fail to keep a tight rein on party members and cadres, letting them engage in activities that are not designed to support production.

After citing the cases mentioned above, the article said in conclusion: This situation requires that responsible echelons and sectors take active measures to overcome shortcomings and concentrate efforts on stepping up production and stabilizing life.

Cadres, Party Members Disciplined in Phu Khanh
BK0106092088 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 31 May 88

[Text] Since May 1987, the Public Security Service of Phu Khanh Province has taken disciplinary action against 153 cadres and combatants who violated discipline, including 24 party members and many leading cadres of various offices, sections, districts, city wards, and villages. The service is now investigating questionable acts of 53 other cadres and combatants.

In response to the campaign to purify and enhance the militancy of party organizations and the state apparatus and make social relations healthy, the party organization of the provincial Public Security Service, together with its command, has concentrated on investigating and resolving cases of negativism in the various party chapters and units. Also through this campaign, the service has graded the quality of cadres and party members and arranged work based on their ability, and, at the same time, firmly taken action against cadres and party members who violated discipline.

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